COPPELION

コッペリオン

23

井上智徳

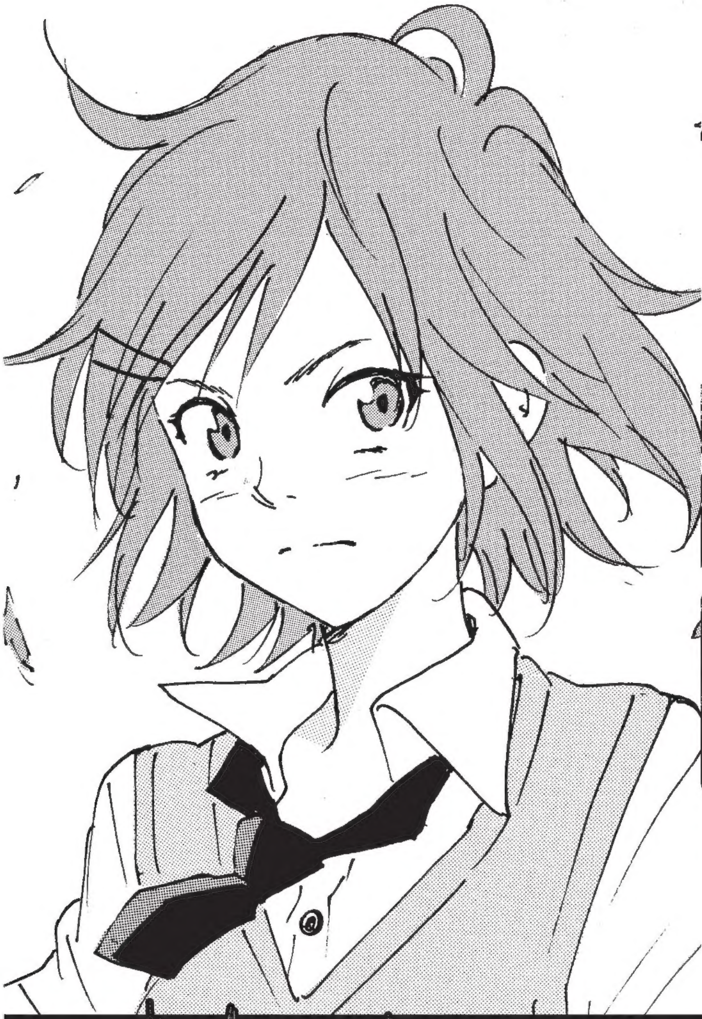
TOMONORI INOUE

COPPELION

23

TOMONORI INOUE

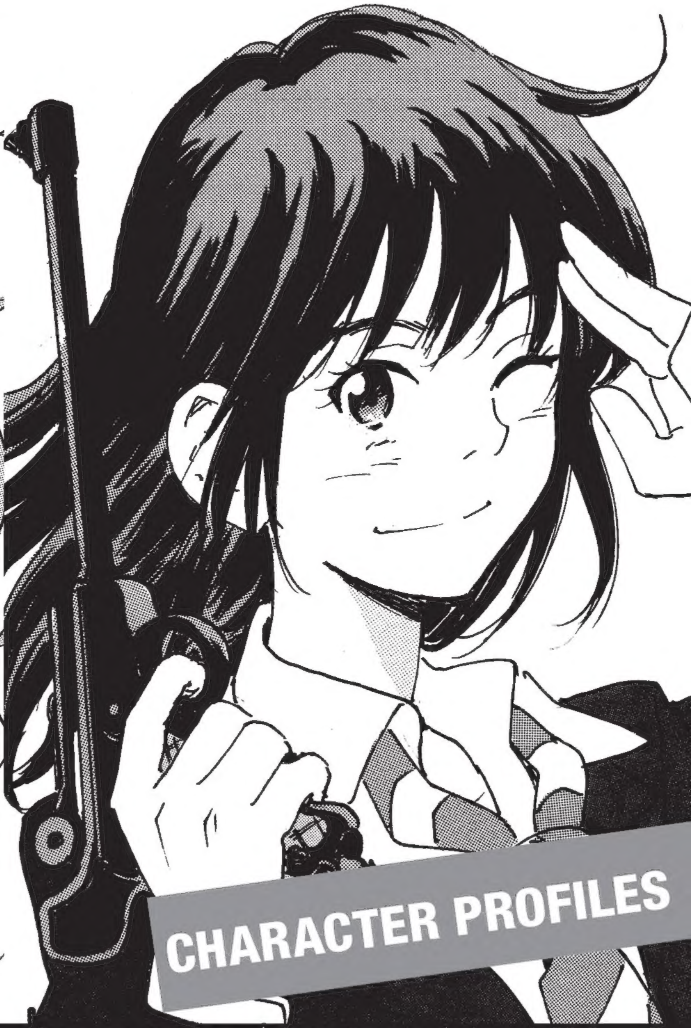
CHARACTER PROFILES



AOI FUKASAKU

(HIGH SCHOOL FIRST-YEAR)

The Medical Unit's cheerful icebreaker. Aoi has a bottomless stomach and a bright personality, but was thought to be a useless, poor student otherwise—except a mysterious power sleeps inside her, as the "complete" Coppelion...

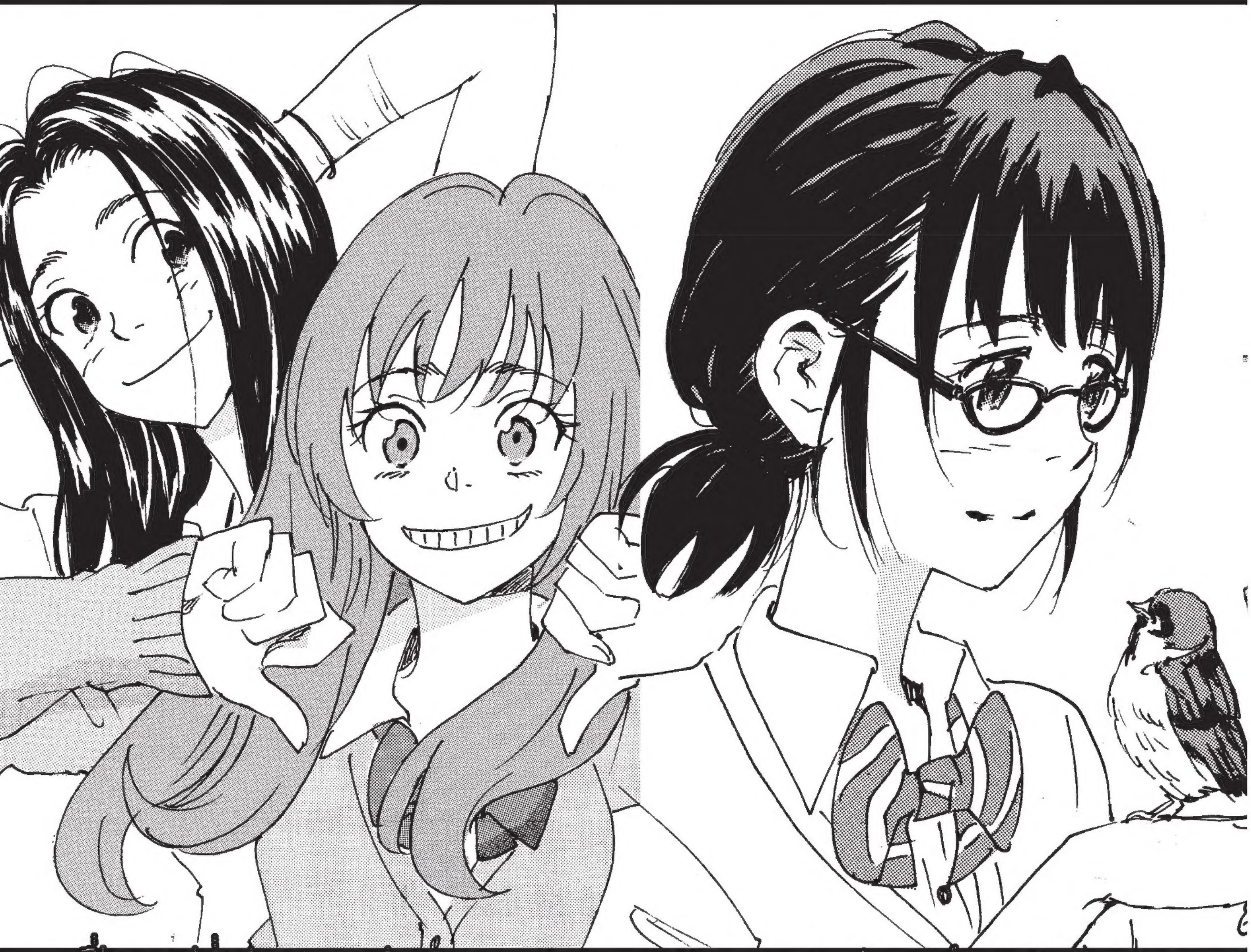


IBARA NARUSE

(HIGH SCHOOL THIRD-YEAR)

Leader of the Coppelion Medical Unit. She possesses staggering athletic ability, and her combat skills are excellent. Relying on her strong conviction to save everyone in Tokyo to give her strength, she leads the search for survivors. Her speech can be a bit rough.

COPP
KEEP OUT



OZU SISTERS

(HIGH SCHOOL THIRD-YEARS)

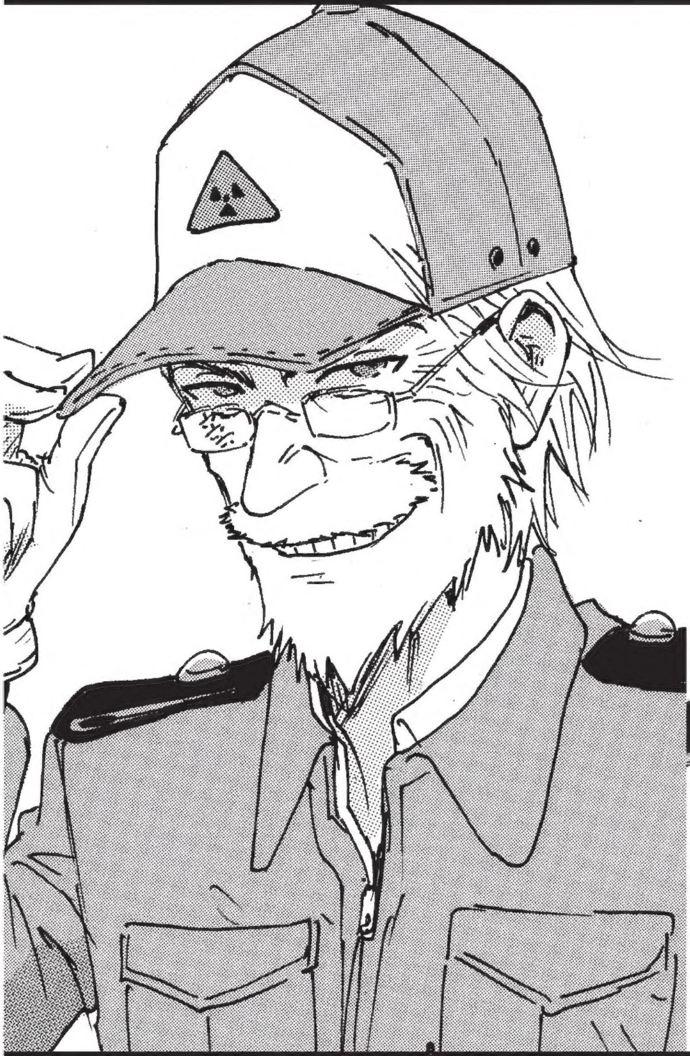
Twin sisters in the Cleanup Crew. Kanon (right), the older sister, can generate lightning, and Shion (left), the younger sister, has super strength. They're both incredibly violent, but reformed after their battle with Ibara.

TAEKO NOMURA

(HIGH SCHOOL FIRST-YEAR)

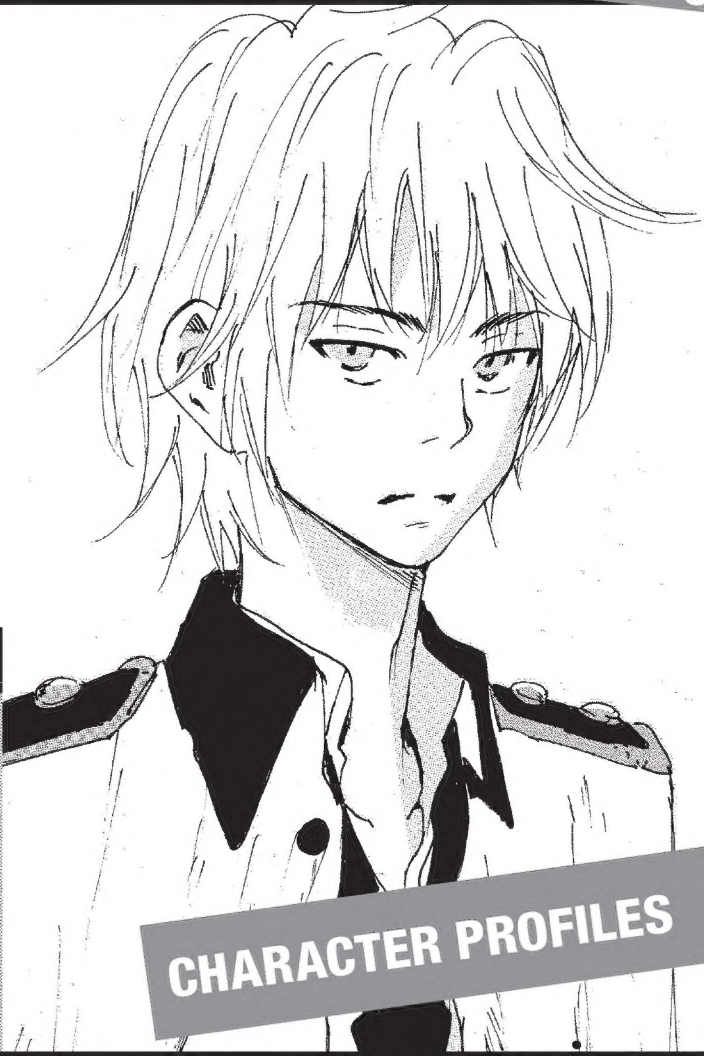
The Medical Unit's comforting member. She's quite knowledgeable and has superhuman senses (she wears glasses to reduce her eyesight to 10% of its true strength, because she sees too far). She loves animals.

CHARACTER PROFILES



DR. COPPELIUS

The mad scientist who created the Coppelion. He'd been working in the shadows to incite a nuclear war, hoping to usher in an age of Coppelion. However, his plan ended in failure when the Meisa Ichikawa betrayed him.

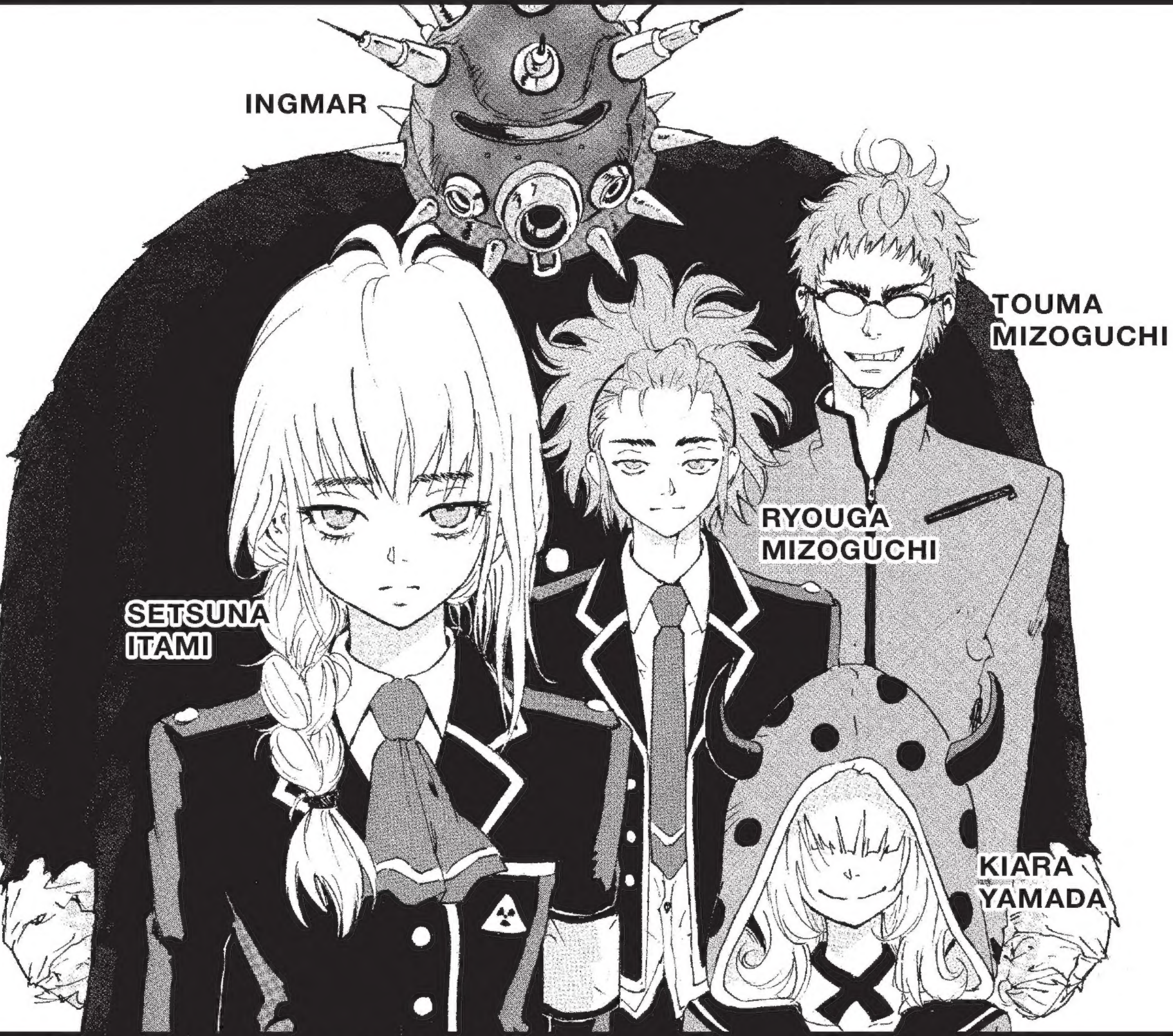


HARUTO KUROSAWA

(HIGH SCHOOL THIRD-YEAR)

The leader of the Cleanup Crew. He has ultra-regeneration powers. A clone of Dr. Coppelius, he has a brilliant mind and always keeps his cool. He sacrificed himself to stop the fire at Shelter 109, but now he's recovered.

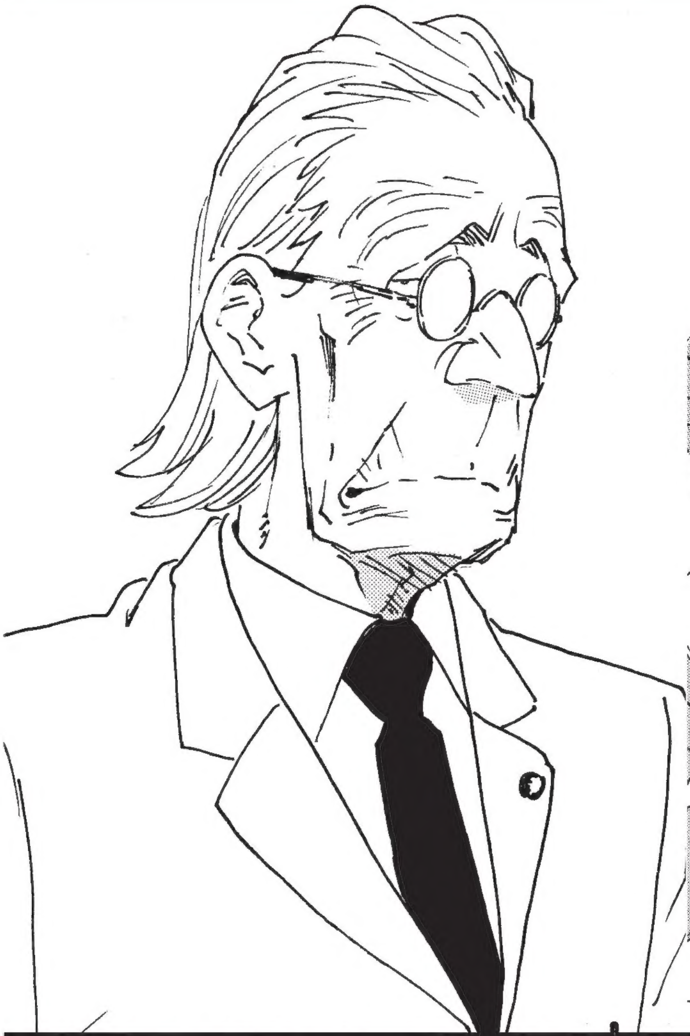
COPP
KEEP OUT

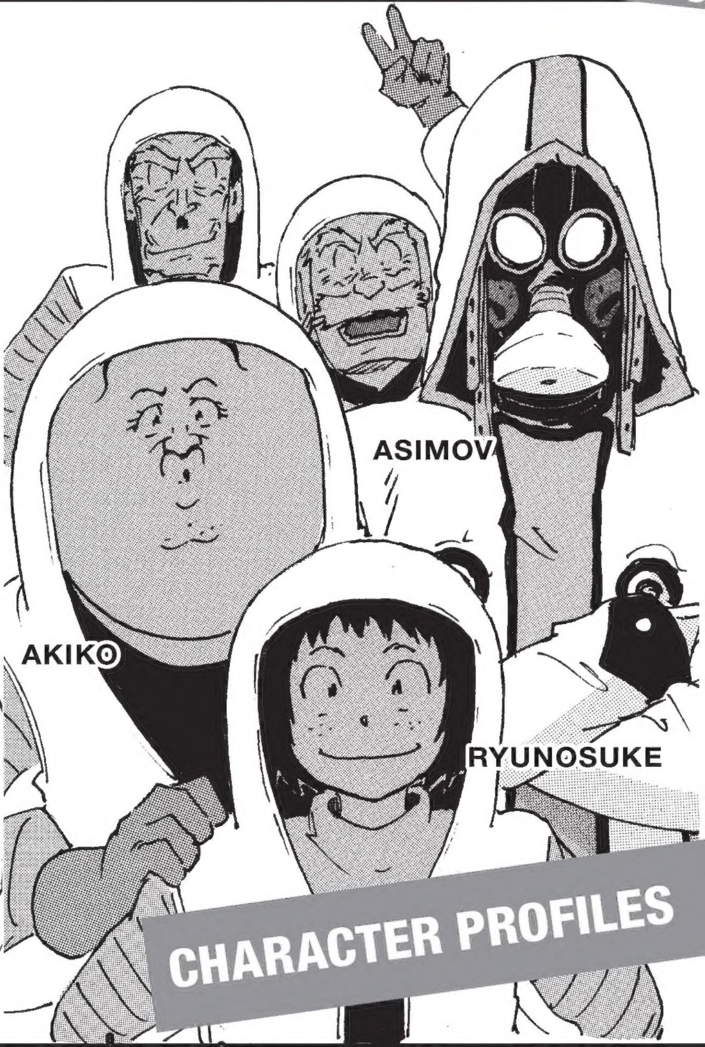

INGMAR
TOUMA MIZOGUCHI
RYOUGA MIZOGUCHI
SETSUNA ITAMI
KIARA YAMADA

RETRIEVAL UNIT

These “failed” Coppelion experiment subjects were dumped in Site-0, a disposal plant, for the murders committed in their pasts. It seems they each have their own fierce special powers. Their leader, Setsuna Itami, is in particular a force to be reckoned with—she even took down a Fossiloid completely by herself. After breaking free of the Japanese government’s leash, they began a rampage of their own. Currently, the Mizoguchi Brothers are working for Yellow Cake.

CHARACTER PROFILES





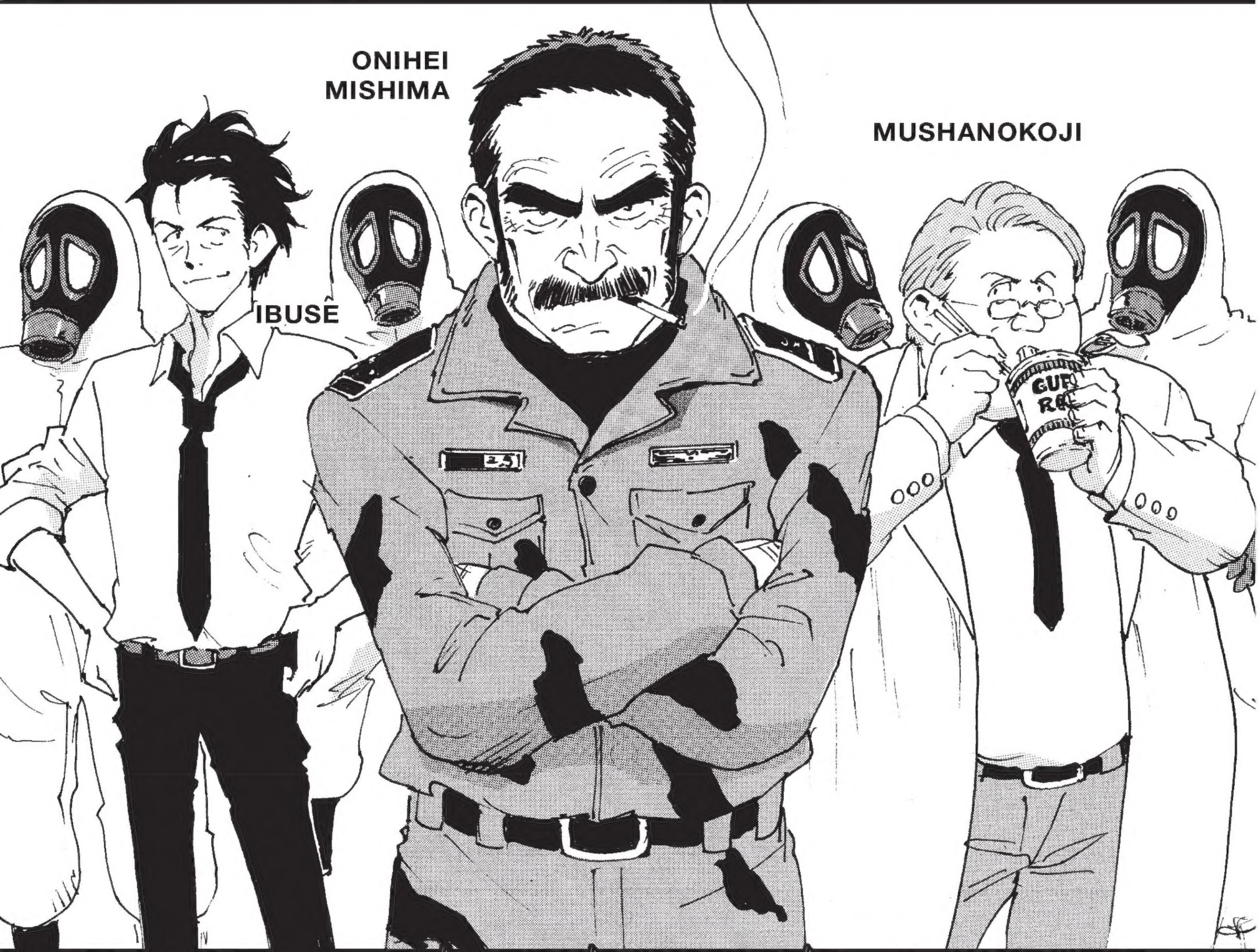
MASAMUNE OUGAI

A cold-hearted man controlling the Japanese government from the shadows as Chief Cabinet Secretary. During Prime Minister Natsume's absence, he's taken control of the Kyoto Eco Summit. However, he's now in a difficult position, while forces behind the scenes are pushing to pass a motion of no-confidence against the Natsume administration...

SHIBUYA AREA SURVIVORS

The survivors who'd been living in Shelter 109, Shibuya. Now that contaminated water has flooded their shelter, they're determined to finally escape Tokyo, and are heading to Haneda with Ibara and company. There are 55 survivors in all.

COPP
KEEP OUT



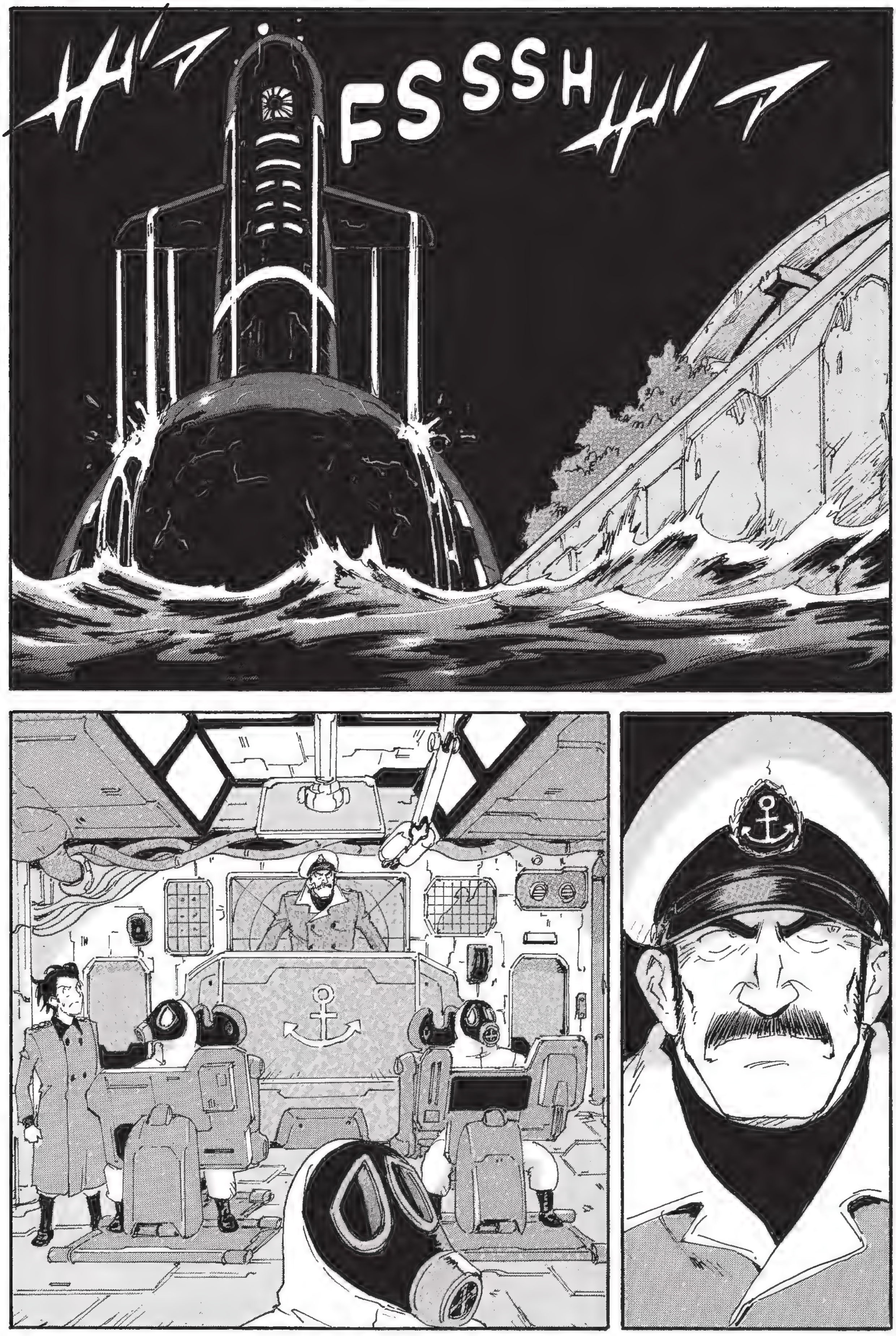
GROUND SELF-DEFENSE FORCE 3RD DIVISION

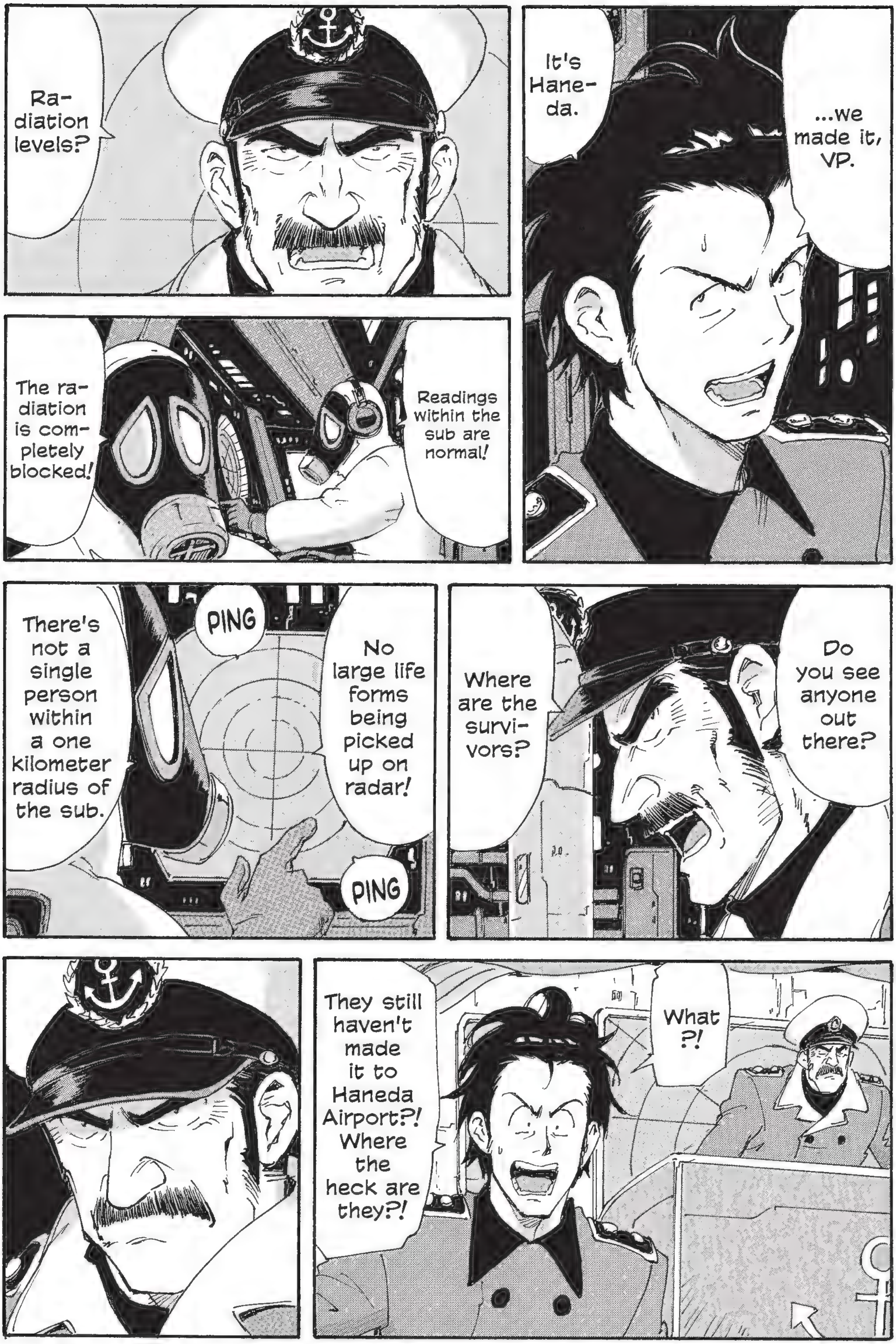
The many faces of the JGSDF unit to which the Coppelion belong. They were placed in charge of the Tokyo survivor evacuation plans. Onihei Mishima, the division commander, is also vice principal of the special JSDF technical school the Coppelion attended. Assisting Mishima are Ibuse, chief engineer Mushanokoji, and many more, who have been acting as backup for the Coppelion as they carry out their duty. Committed to evacuating the final survivors, they stole the submarine Genryu from the government and are now traveling underwater...

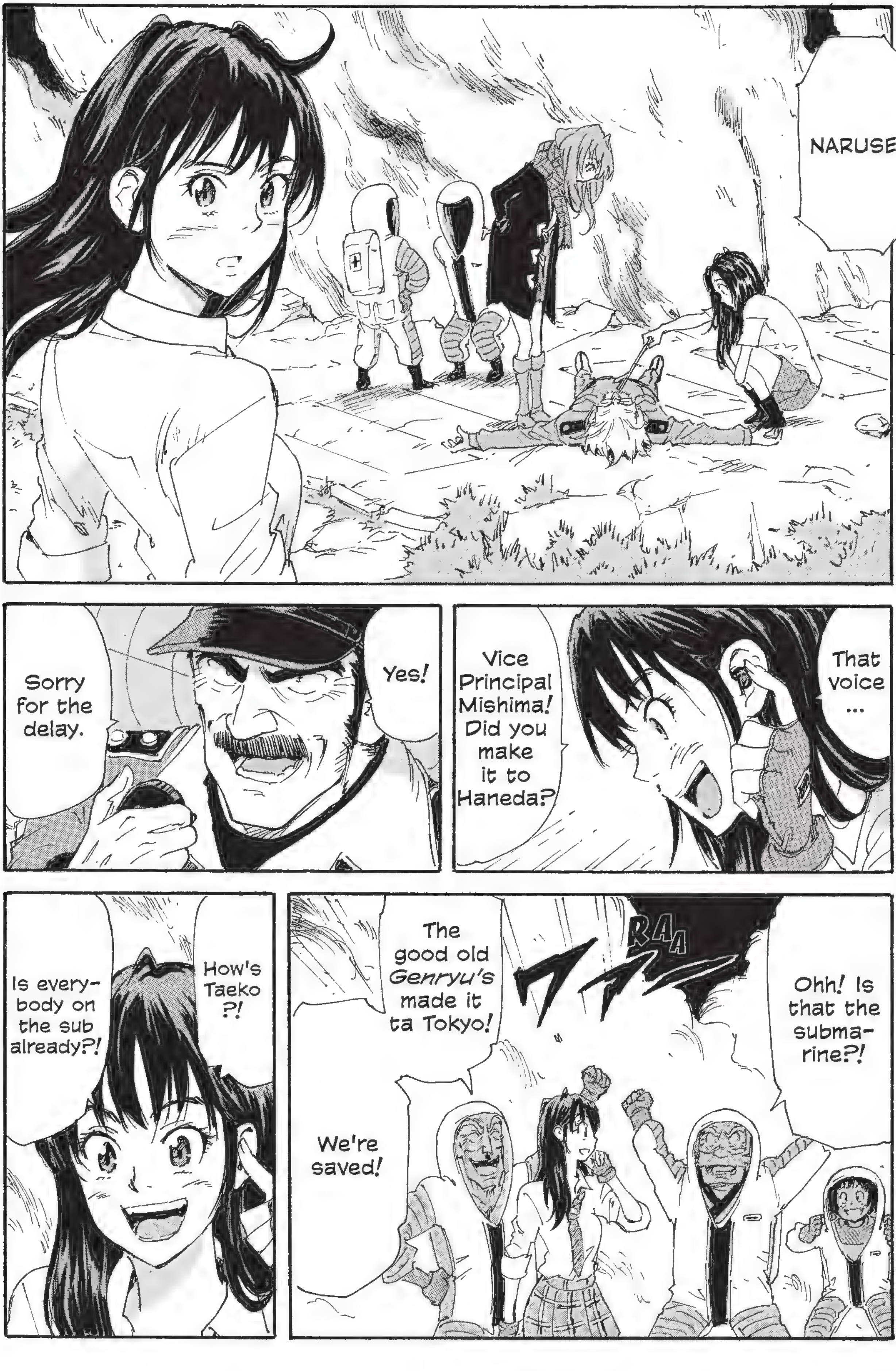
COPPELION
コッペリオン

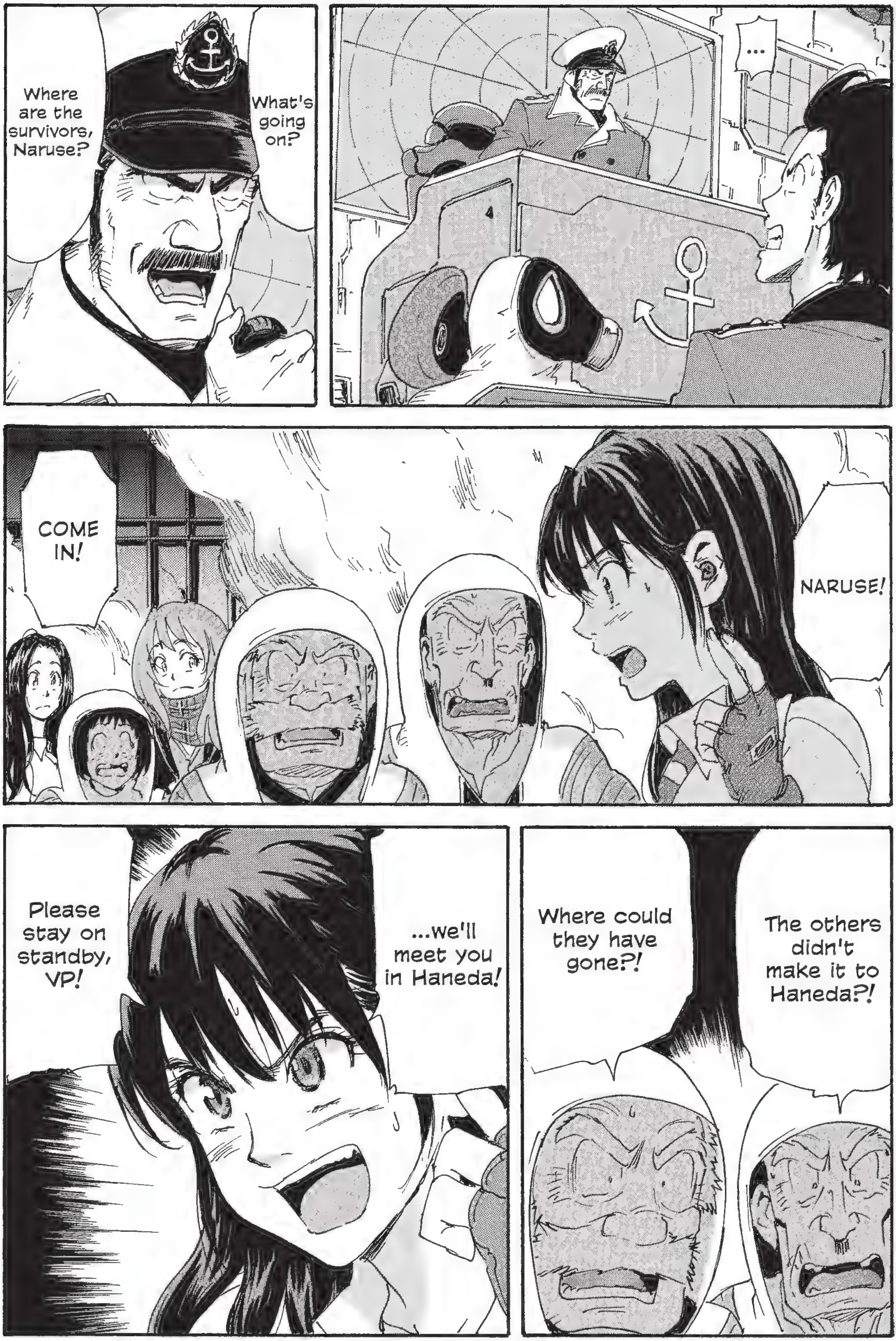
Act.25【Spiritual Vessel】

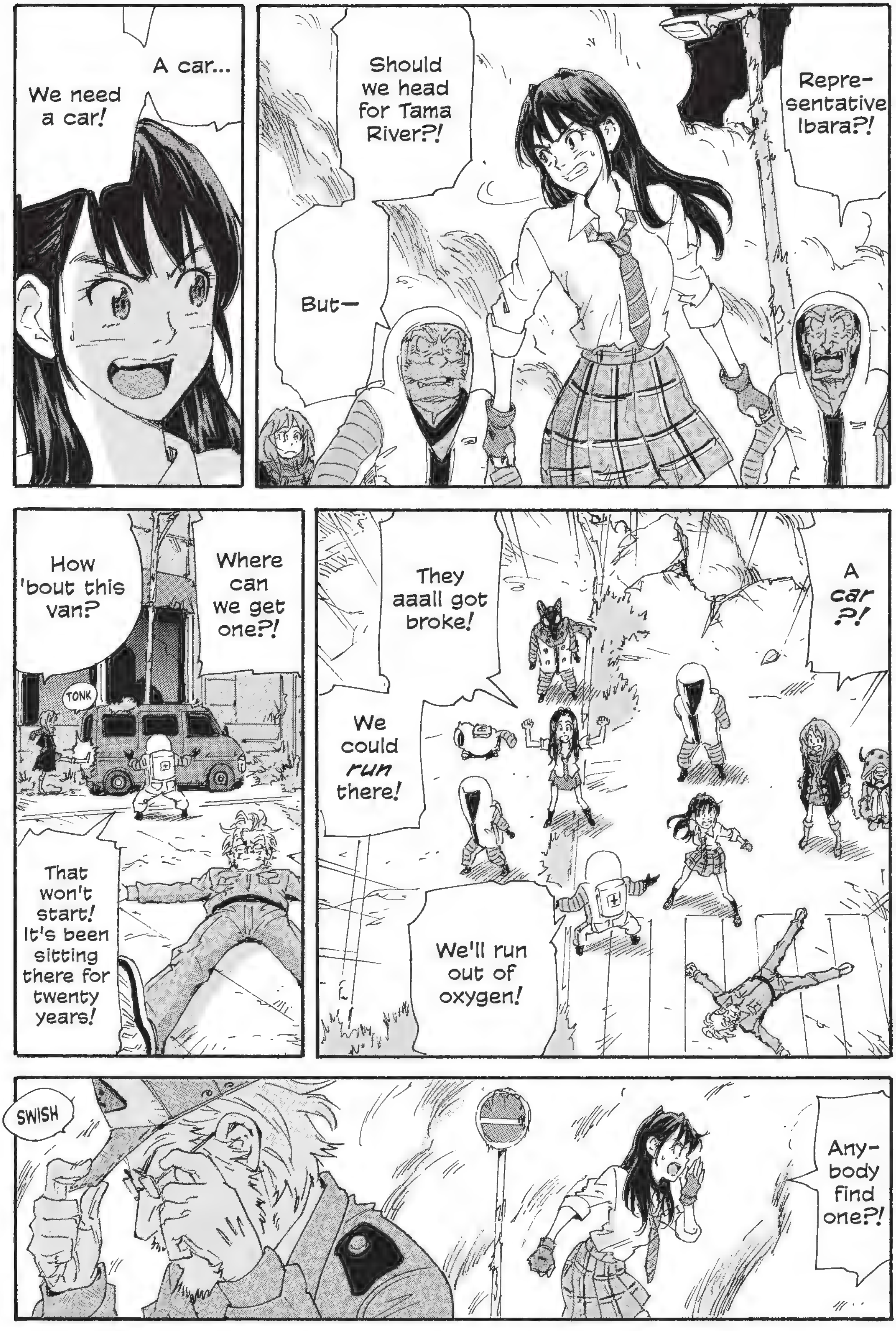
PRESENT FOR YOU

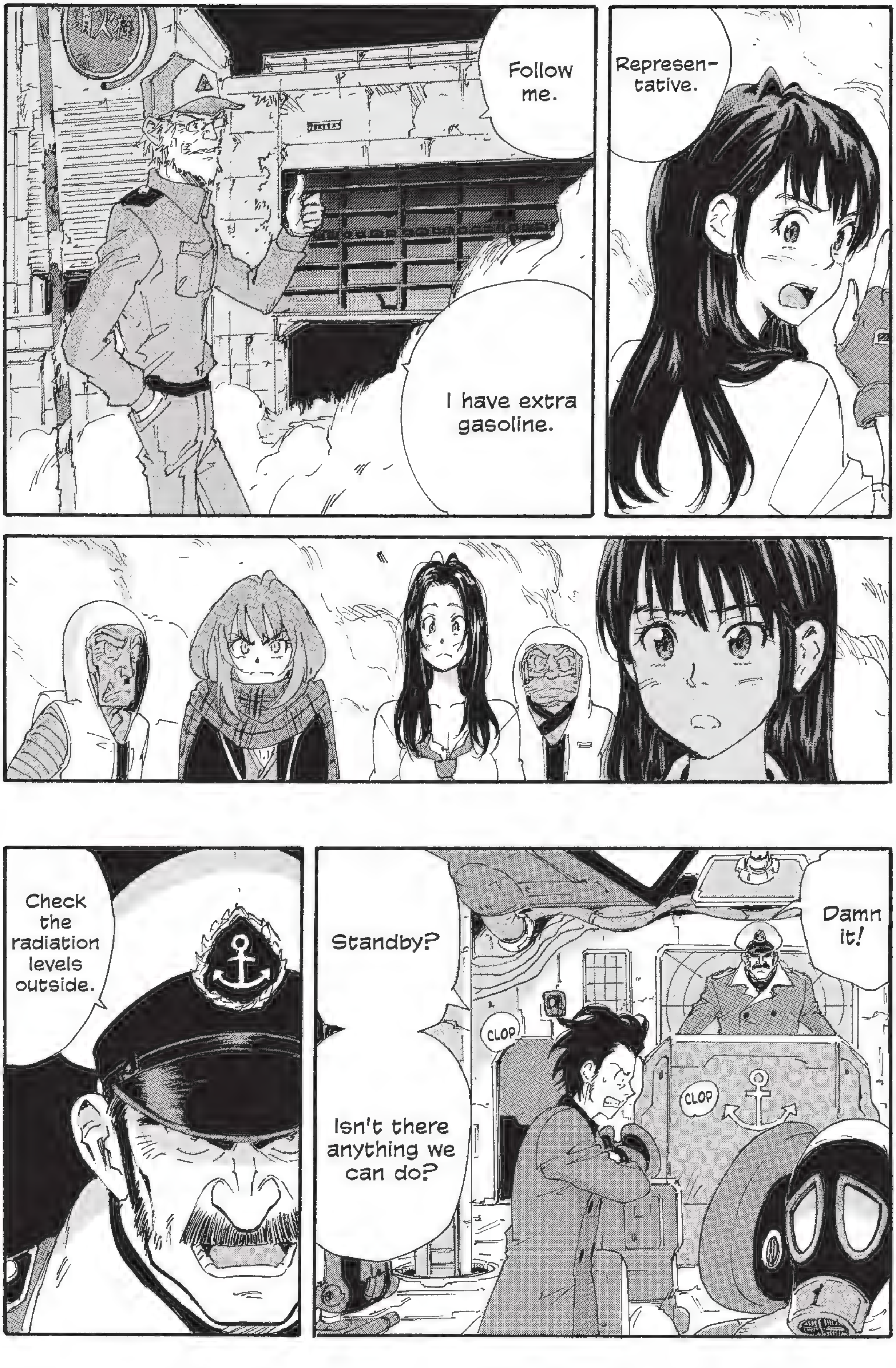

ザァ
FSSSH
ザァ

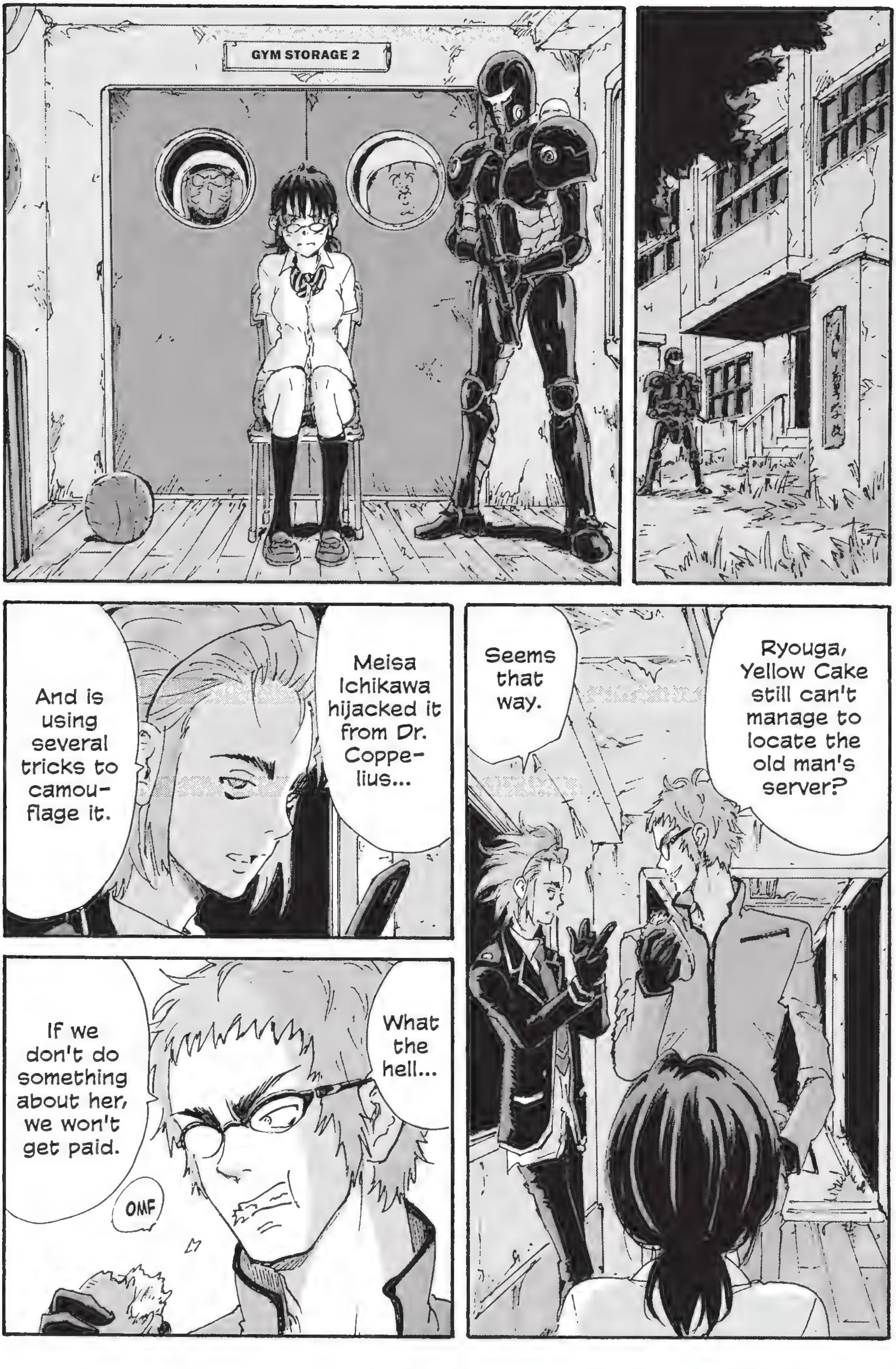

It's Haneda.
...we made it, VP.
Radiation levels?
Readings within the sub are normal!
The radiation is completely blocked!
Do you see anyone out there?
Where are the survivors?
PING
No large life forms being picked up on radar!
There's not a single person within a one kilometer radius of the sub.
PING
What?!
They still haven't made it to Haneda Airport?! Where the heck are they?!

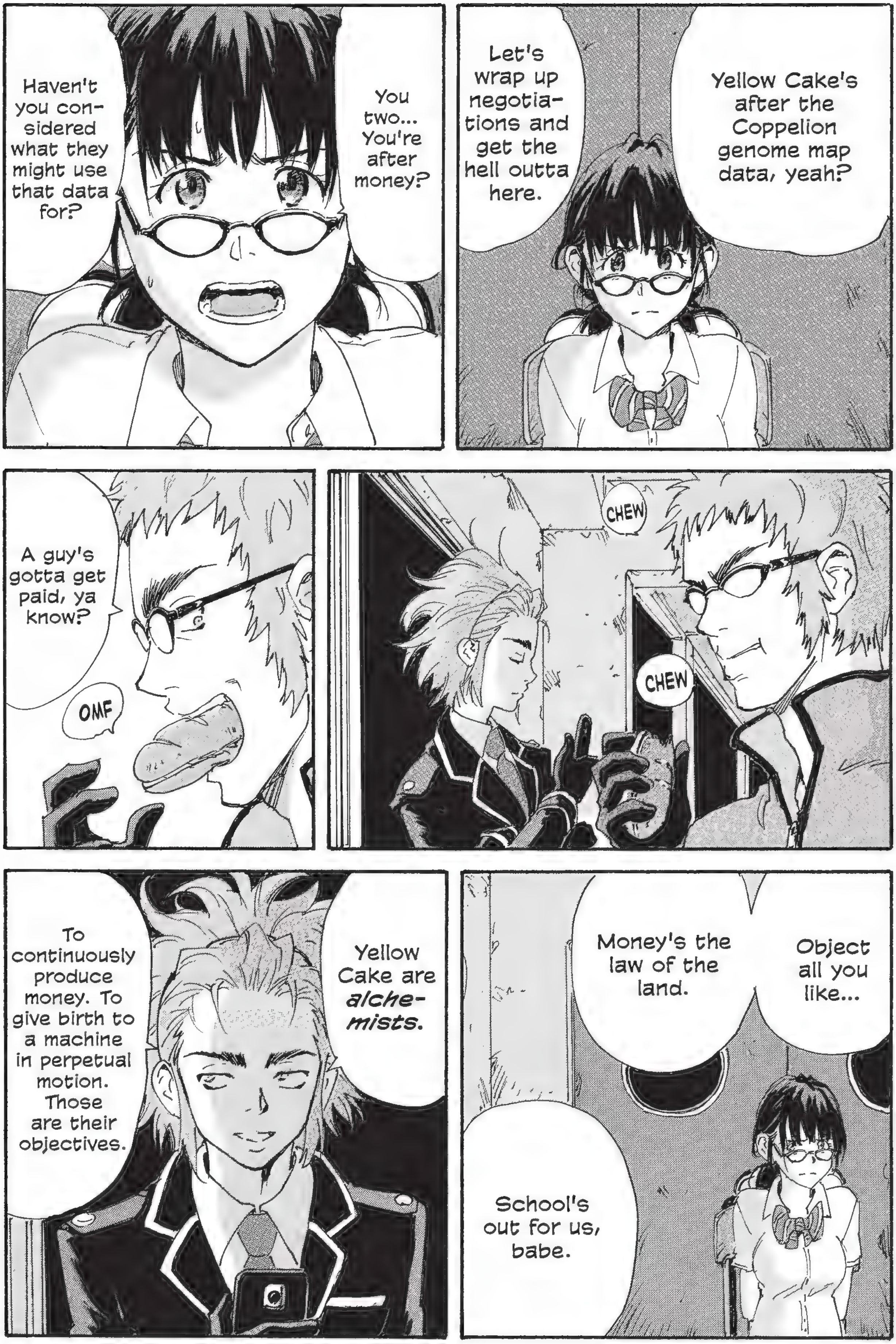

NARUSE!
That voice ...
Vice Principal Mishima! Did you make it to Haneda?
Yes!
Sorry for the delay.
Ohh! Is that the submarine?!
ワァァ
RAA
The good old *Genryu's* made it ta Tokyo!
We're saved!
How's Taeko ?!
Is everybody on the sub already?!

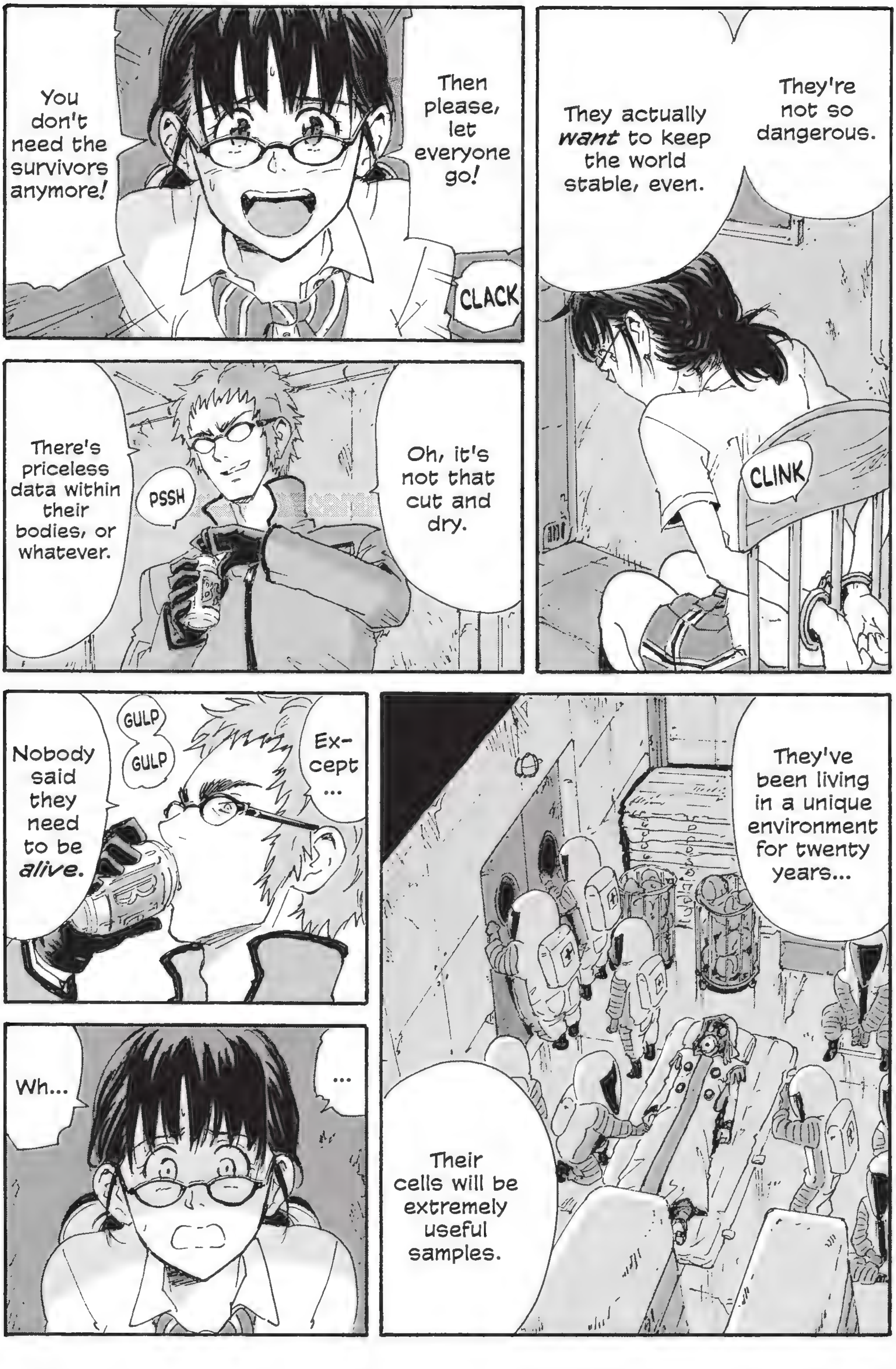

...
What's going on?
Where are the survivors, Naruse?
NARUSE!
COME IN!
The others didn't make it to Haneda?!
Where could they have gone?!
...we'll meet you in Haneda!
Please stay on standby, VP!

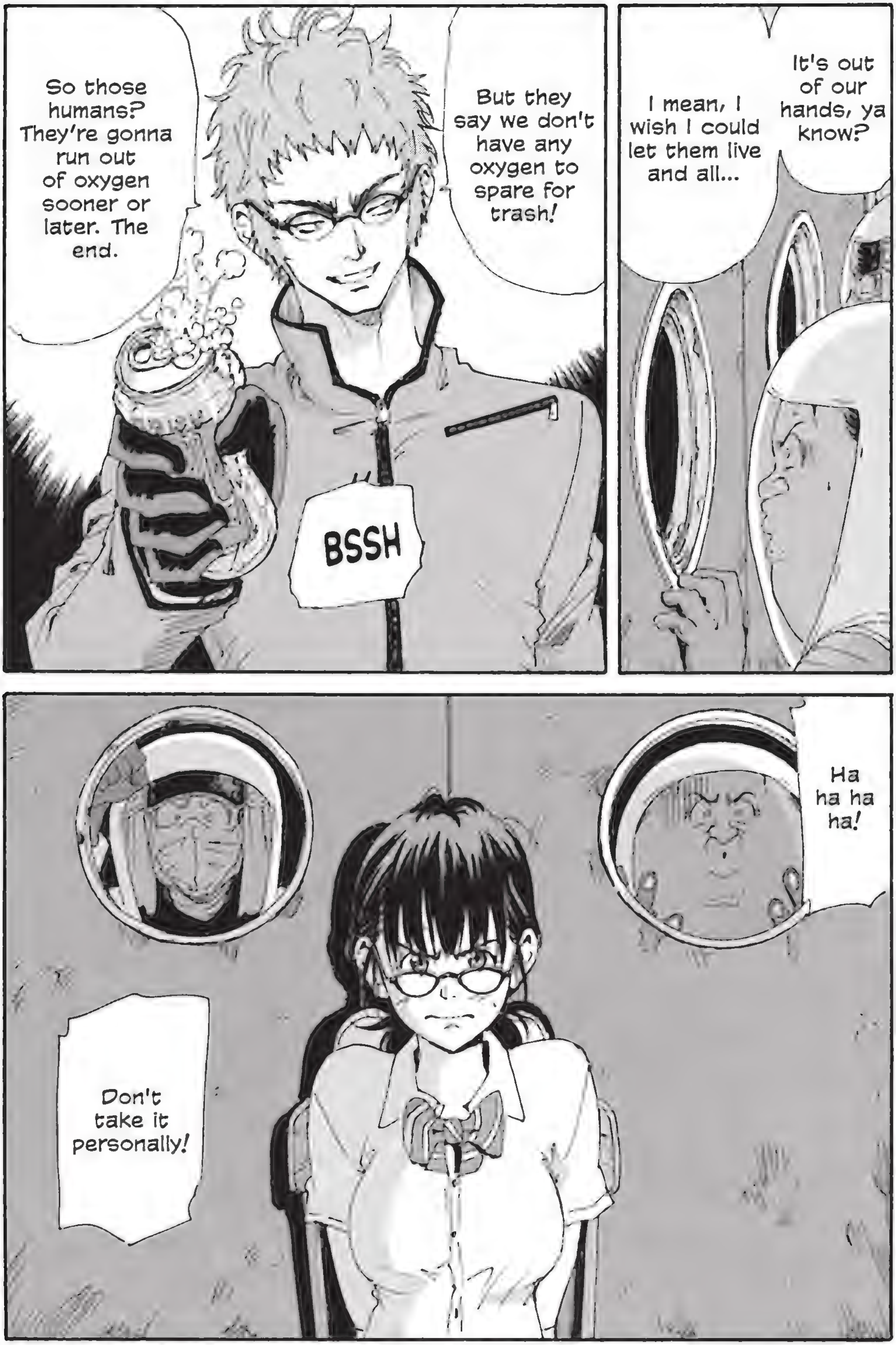

Representative Ibara?!
Should we head for Tama River?!
But—
A car...
We need a car!
A car?!
They aaall got broke!
We could *run* there!
We'll run out of oxygen!
Where can we get one?!
How 'bout this van?
TONK
That won't start! It's been sitting there for twenty years!
Anybody find one?!
SWISH

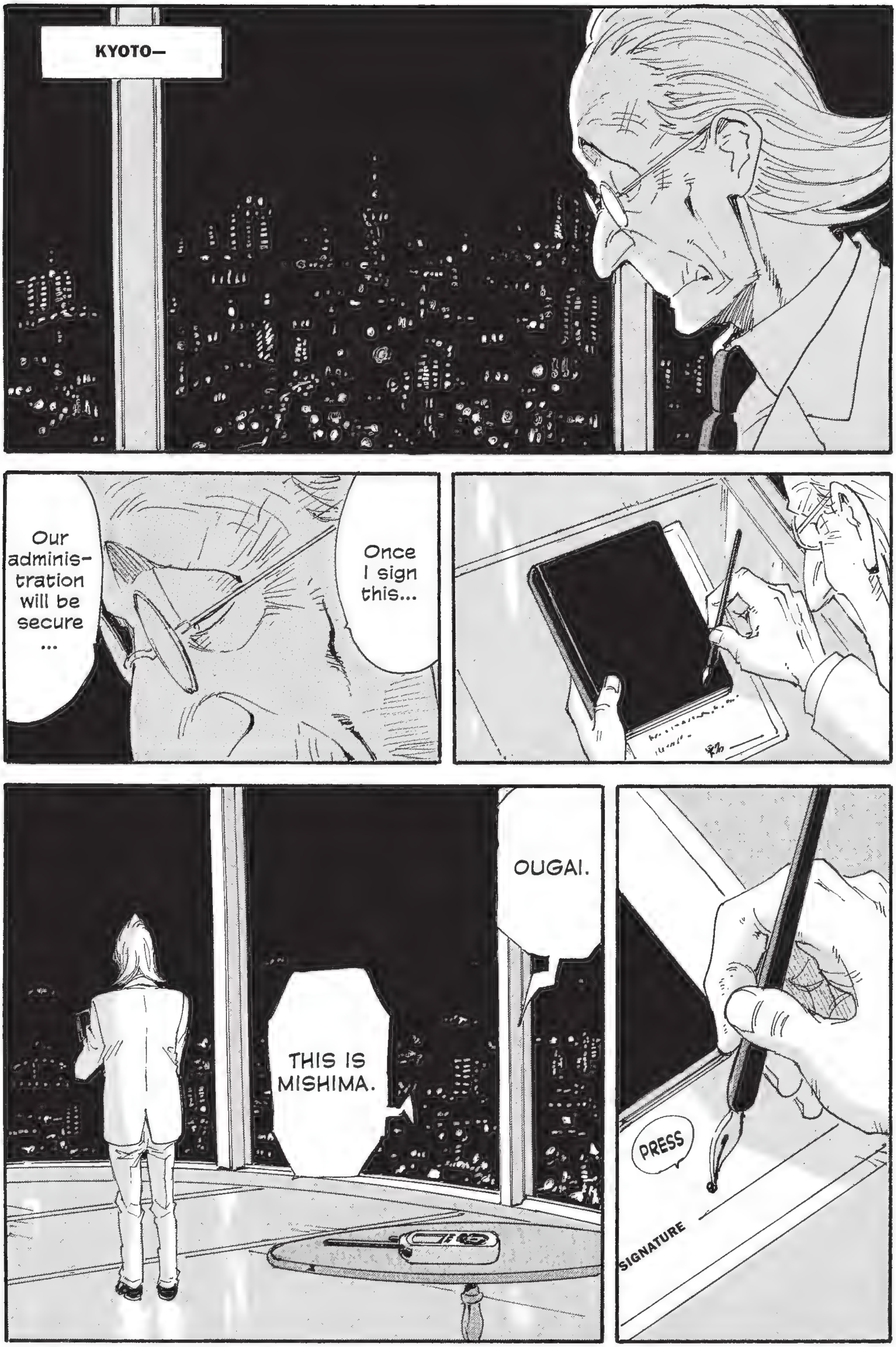

Follow me.
I have extra gasoline.
Representative.
Check the radiation levels outside.
Standby?
Isn't there anything we can do?
CLOP
CLOP
Damn it!

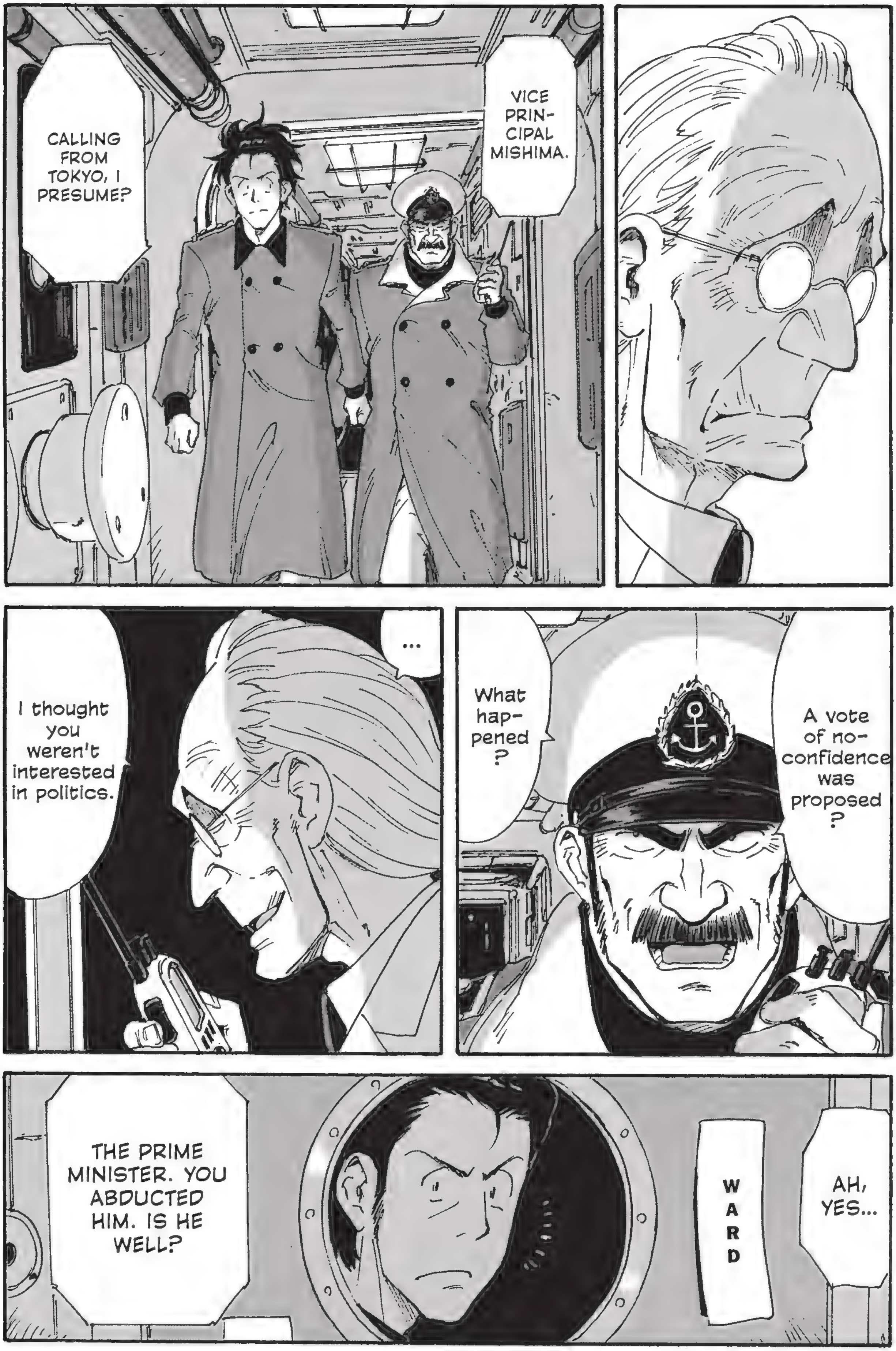

GYM STORAGE 2
Ryouga, Yellow Cake still can't manage to locate the old man's server?
Seems that way.
Meisa Ichikawa hijacked it from Dr. Coppelius...
And is using several tricks to camouflage it.
What the hell...
If we don't do something about her, we won't get paid.
OMF

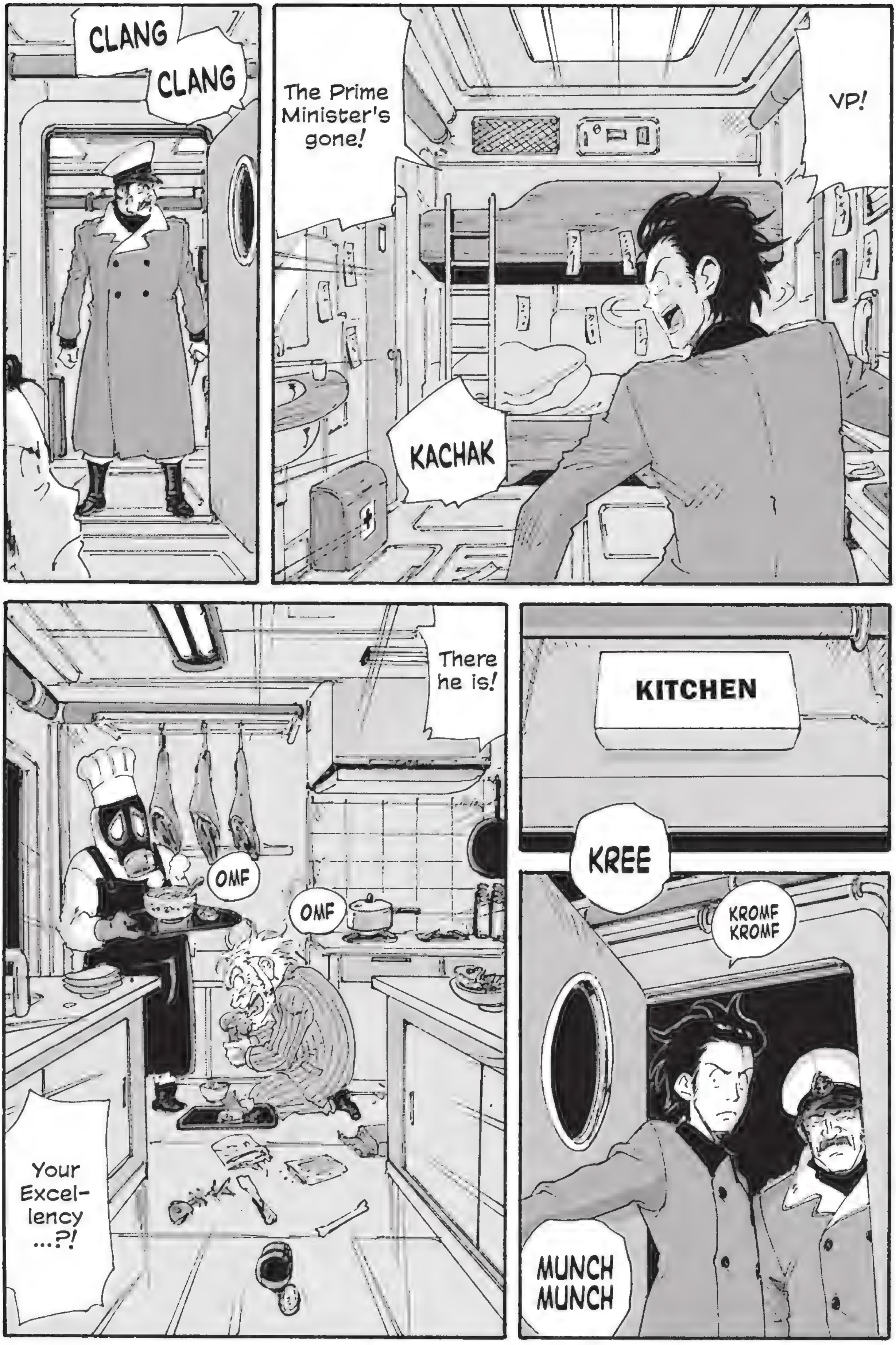

Yellow Cake's after the Coppelion genome map data, yeah?
Let's wrap up negotiations and get the hell outta here.
You two... You're after money?
Haven't you considered what they might use that data for?
CHEW
CHEW
A guy's gotta get paid, ya know?
OMF
Object all you like...
Money's the law of the land.
School's out for us, babe.
Yellow Cake are *alchemists.*
To continuously produce money. To give birth to a machine in perpetual motion. Those are their objectives.

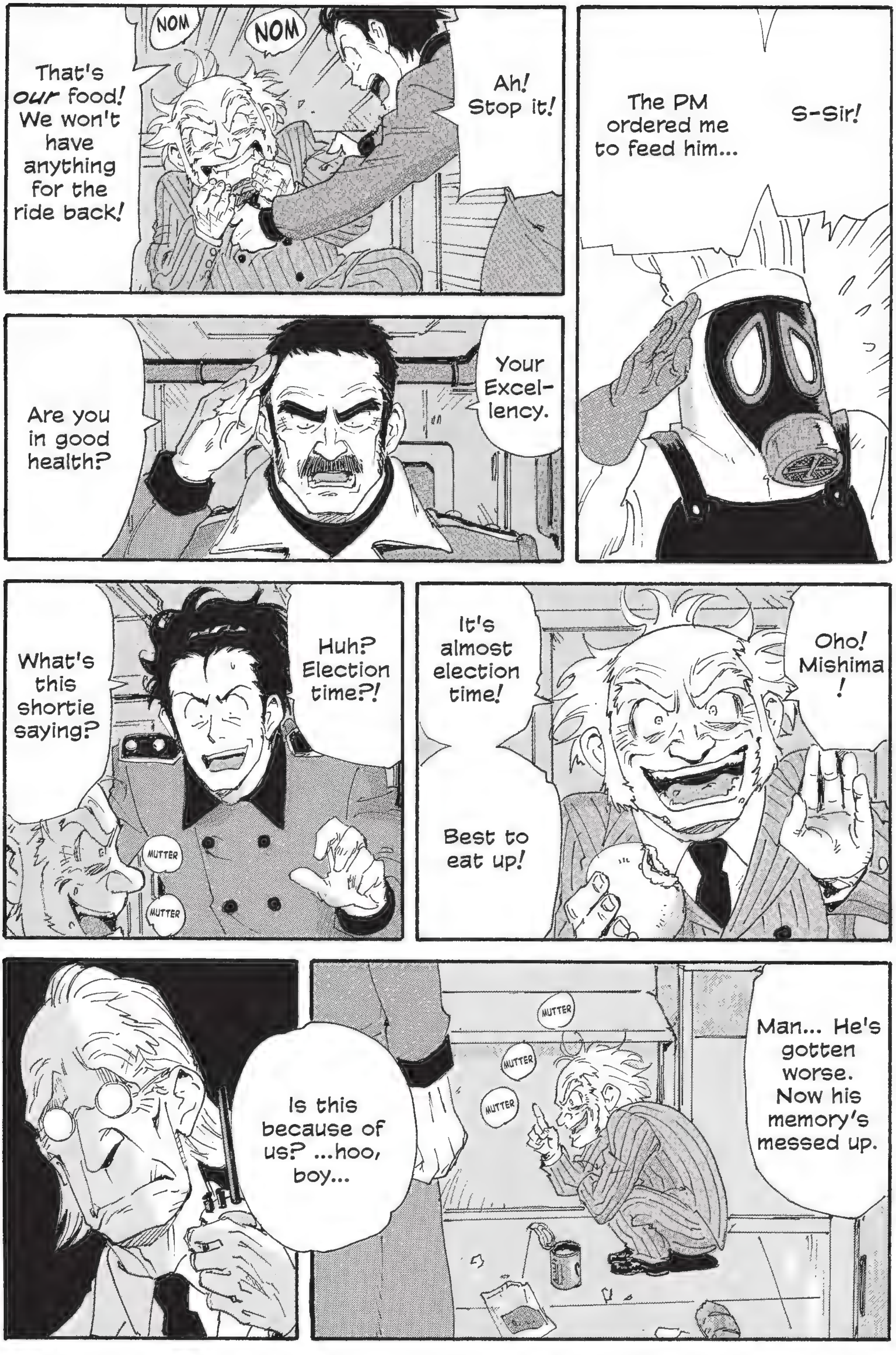

They're not so dangerous.
They actually *want* to keep the world stable, even.
CLINK
Then please, let everyone go!
You don't need the survivors anymore!
CLACK
Oh, it's not that cut and dry.
PSSH
There's priceless data within their bodies, or whatever.
They've been living in a unique environment for twenty years...
Their cells will be extremely useful samples.
Ex-cept...
GULP
GULP
Nobody said they need to be *alive*.
...
Wh...

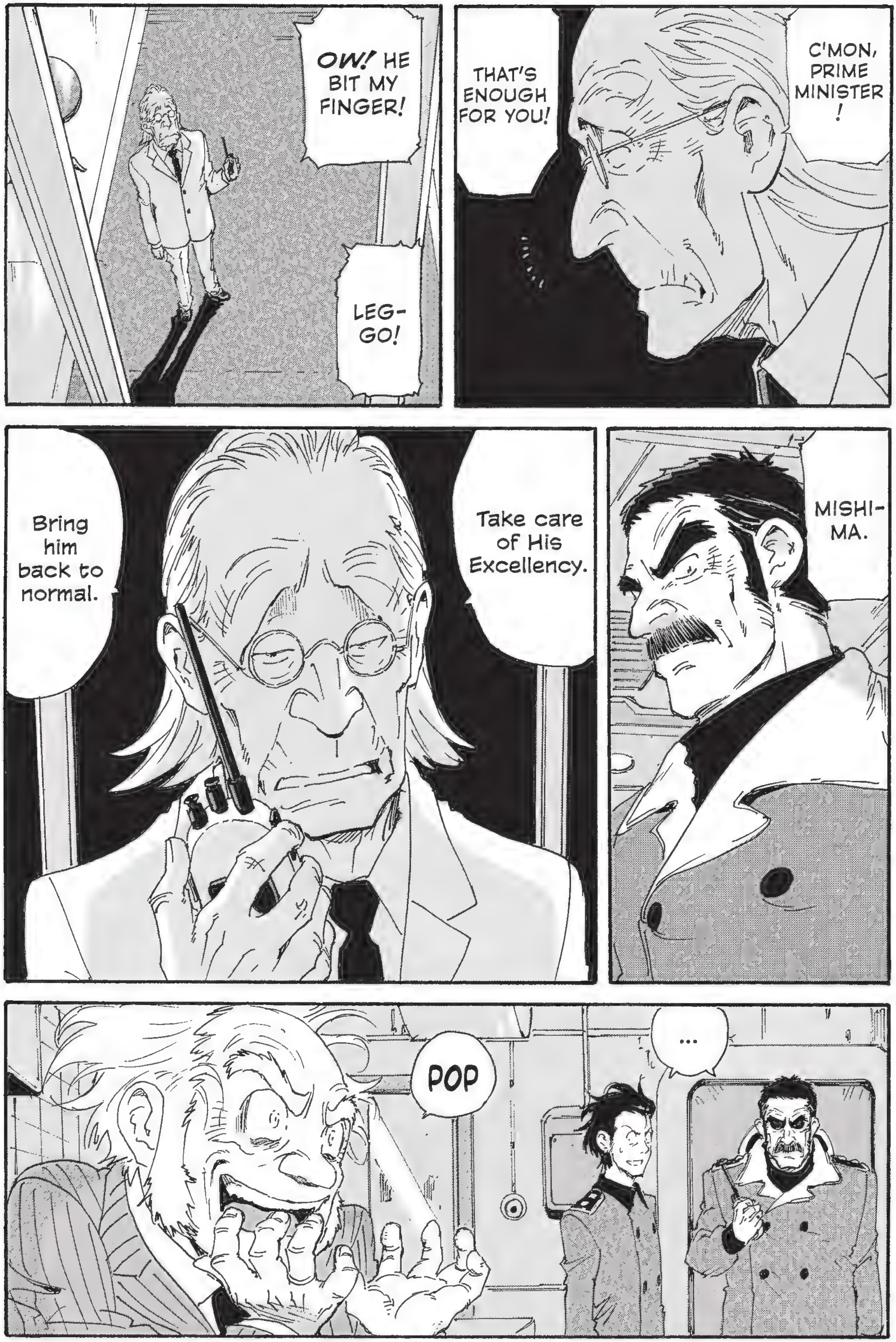

So those humans? They're gonna run out of oxygen sooner or later. The end.
BSSH
But they say we don't have any oxygen to spare for trash!
I mean, I wish I could let them live and all...
It's out of our hands, ya know?
Ha ha ha ha!
Don't take it personally!

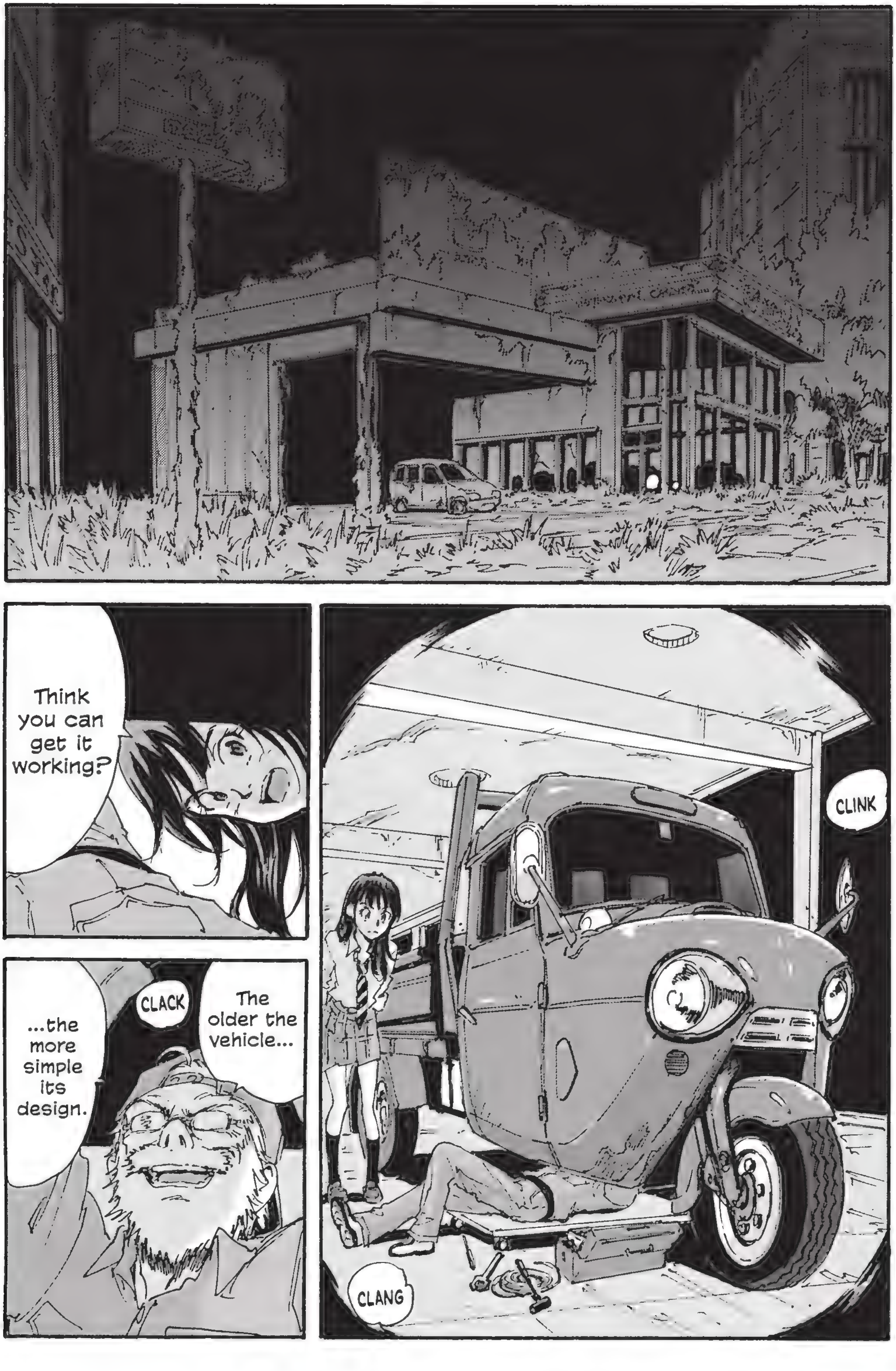

KYOTO—
Once I sign this...
Our adminis-tration will be secure ...
PRESS
SIGNATURE
OUGAI.
THIS IS MISHIMA.

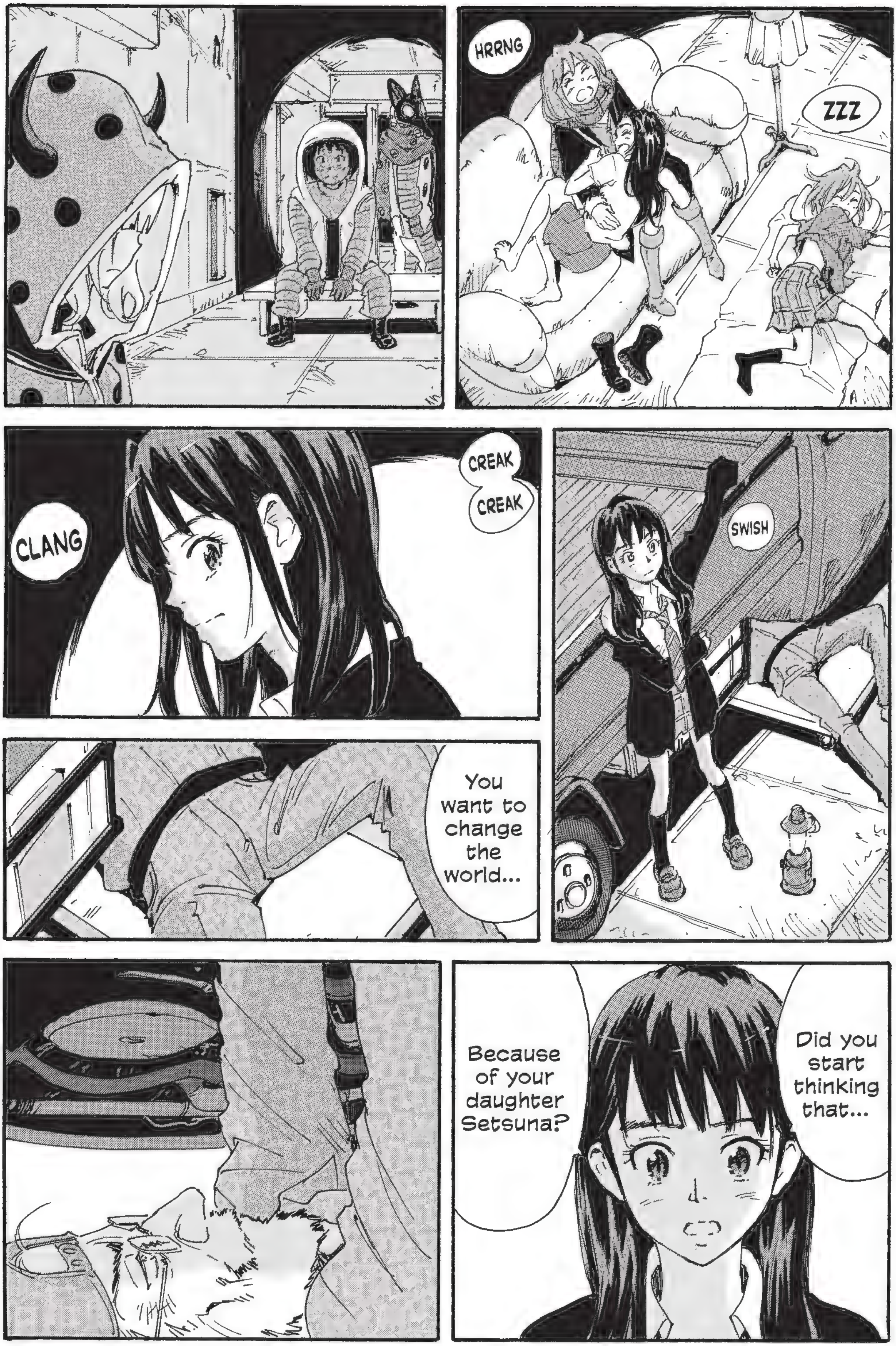

VICE PRINCIPAL MISHIMA.
CALLING FROM TOKYO, I PRESUME?
A vote of no-confidence was proposed?
What happened?
...
I thought you weren't interested in politics.
AH, YES...
WARD
THE PRIME MINISTER. YOU ABDUCTED HIM. IS HE WELL?

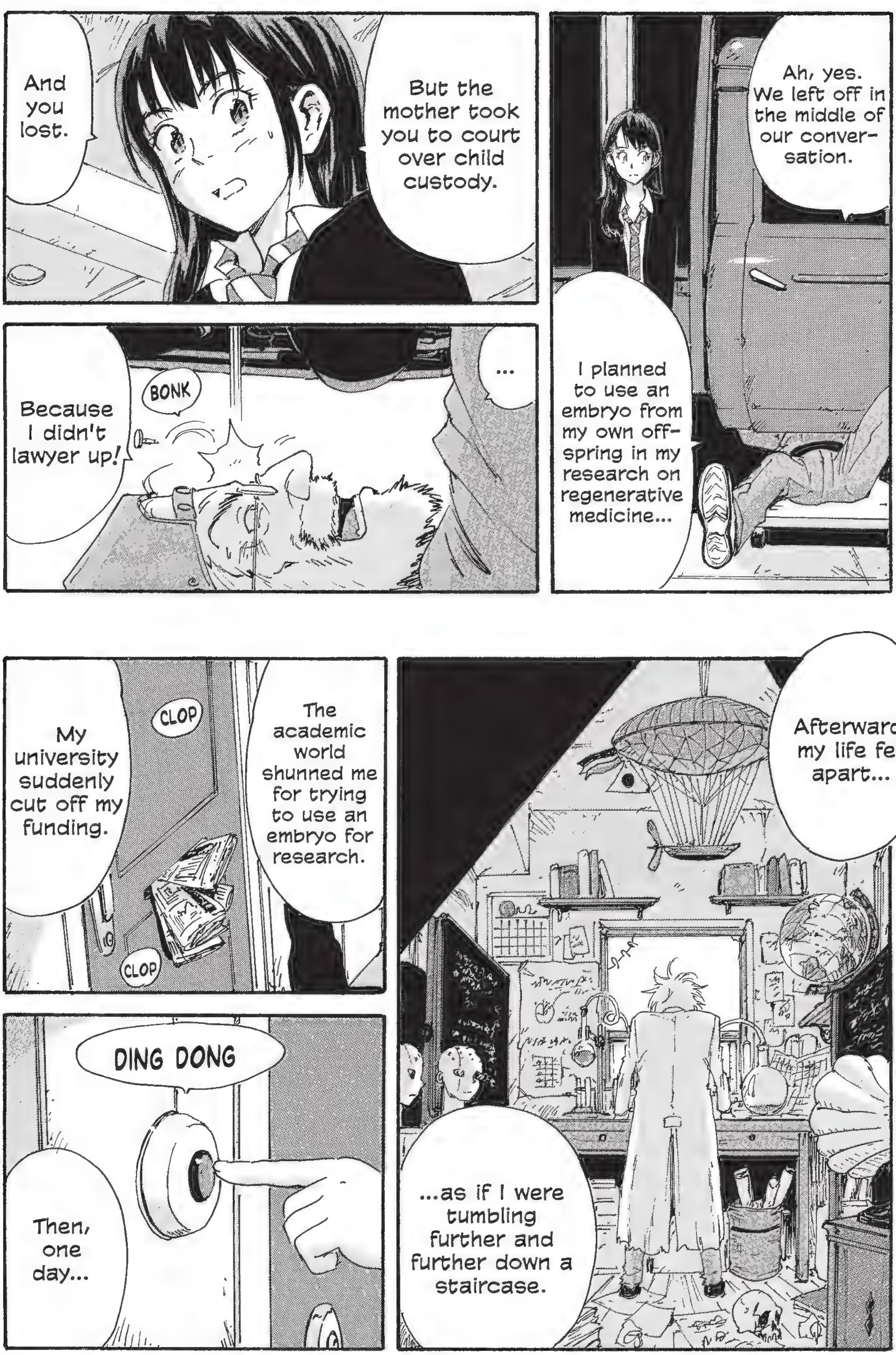

VP!
The Prime Minister's gone!
KACHAK
CLANG
CLANG
KITCHEN
KREE
KROMF KROMF
MUNCH MUNCH
There he is!
OMF
OMF
Your Excellency ...?!

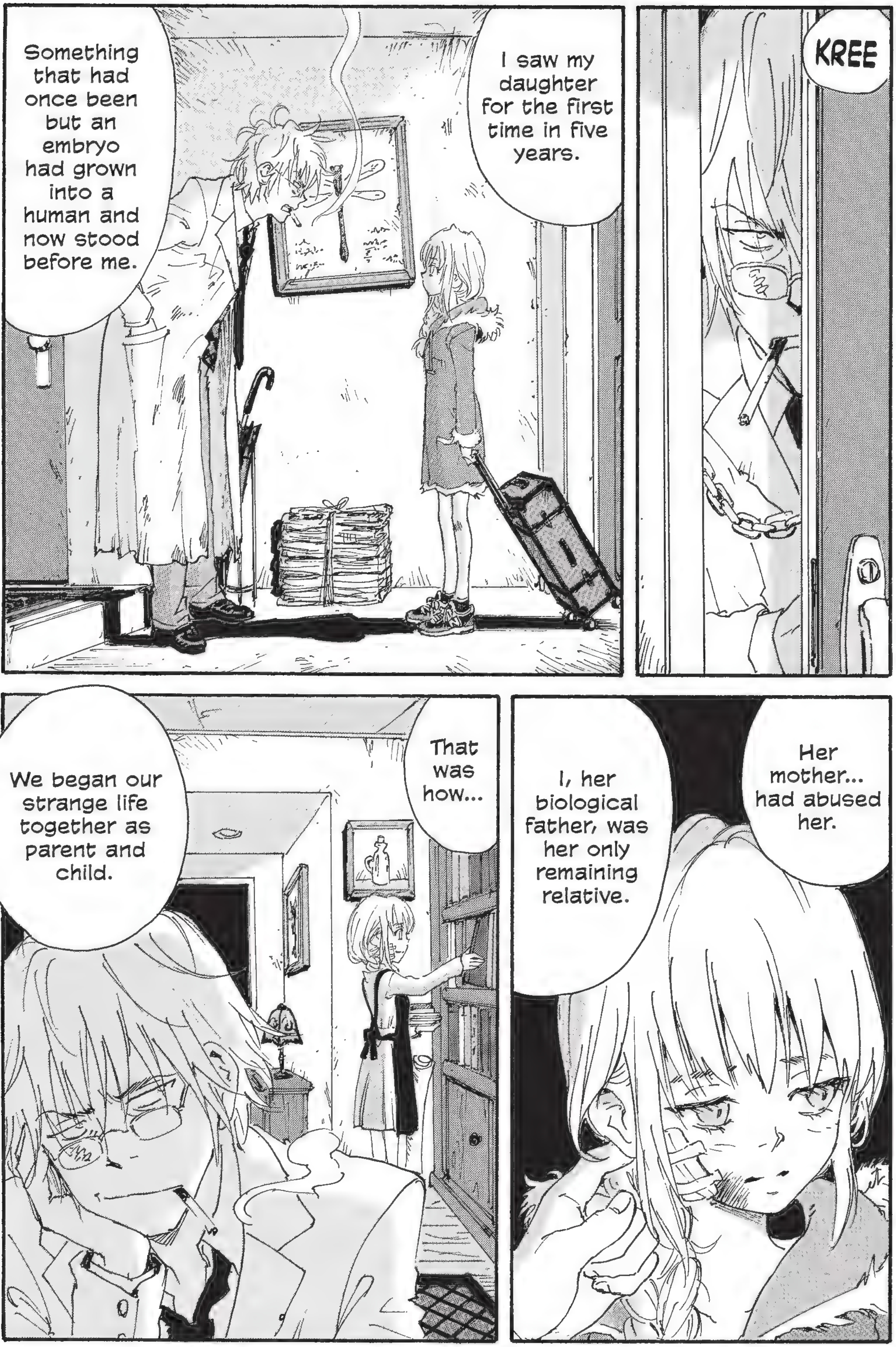

NOM
NOM
Ah! Stop it!
That's *our* food! We won't have anything for the ride back!
S-Sir!
The PM ordered me to feed him...
Your Excellency.
Are you in good health?
Oho! Mishima!
It's almost election time!
Best to eat up!
Huh? Election time?!
What's this shortie saying?
MUTTER
MUTTER
Man... He's gotten worse. Now his memory's messed up.
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
Is this because of us? ...hoo, boy...

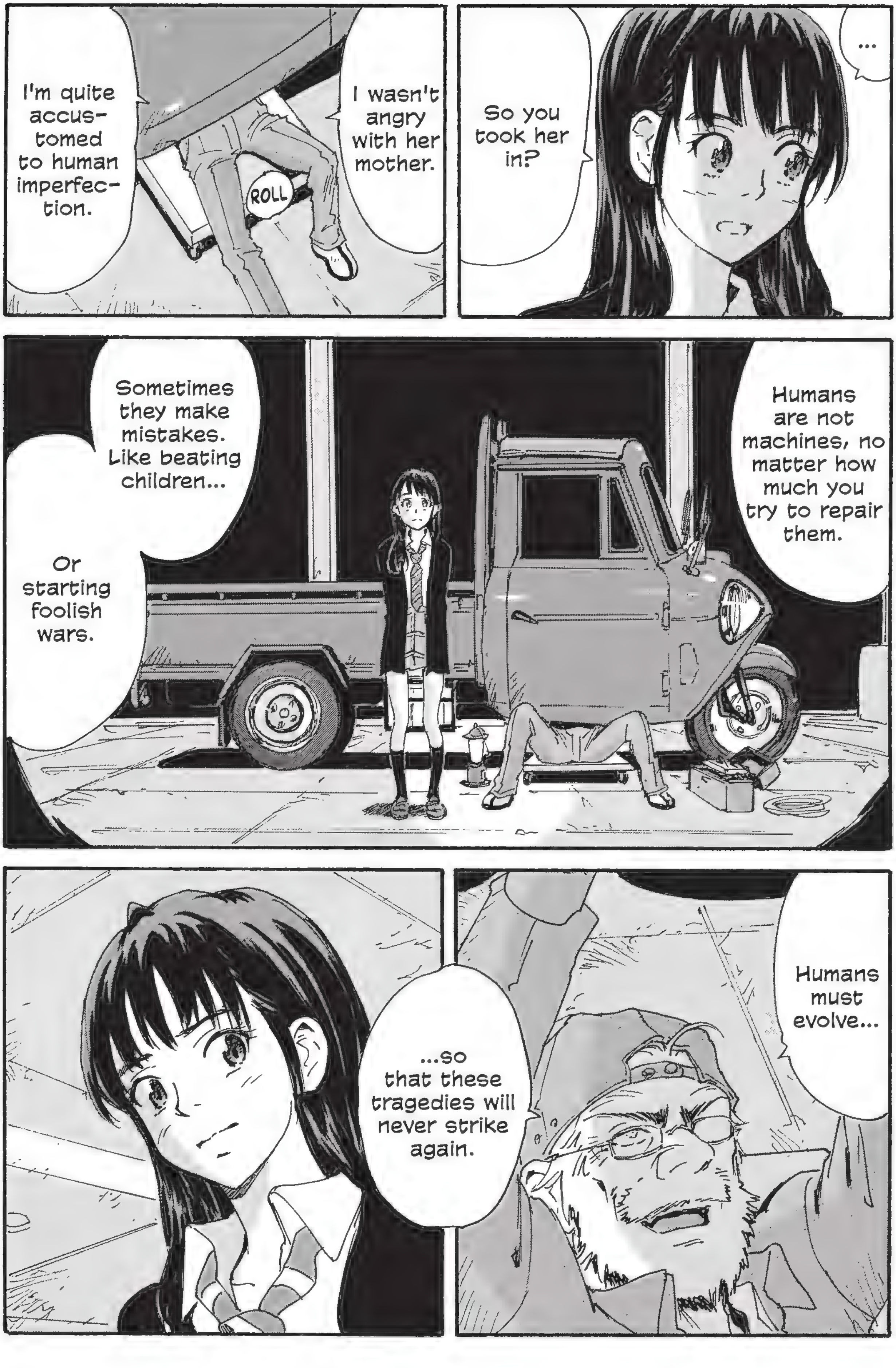

C'MON, PRIME MINISTER!
THAT'S ENOUGH FOR YOU!
OW! HE BIT MY FINGER!
LEG-GO!
MISHIMA.
Take care of His Excellency.
Bring him back to normal.
...
POP

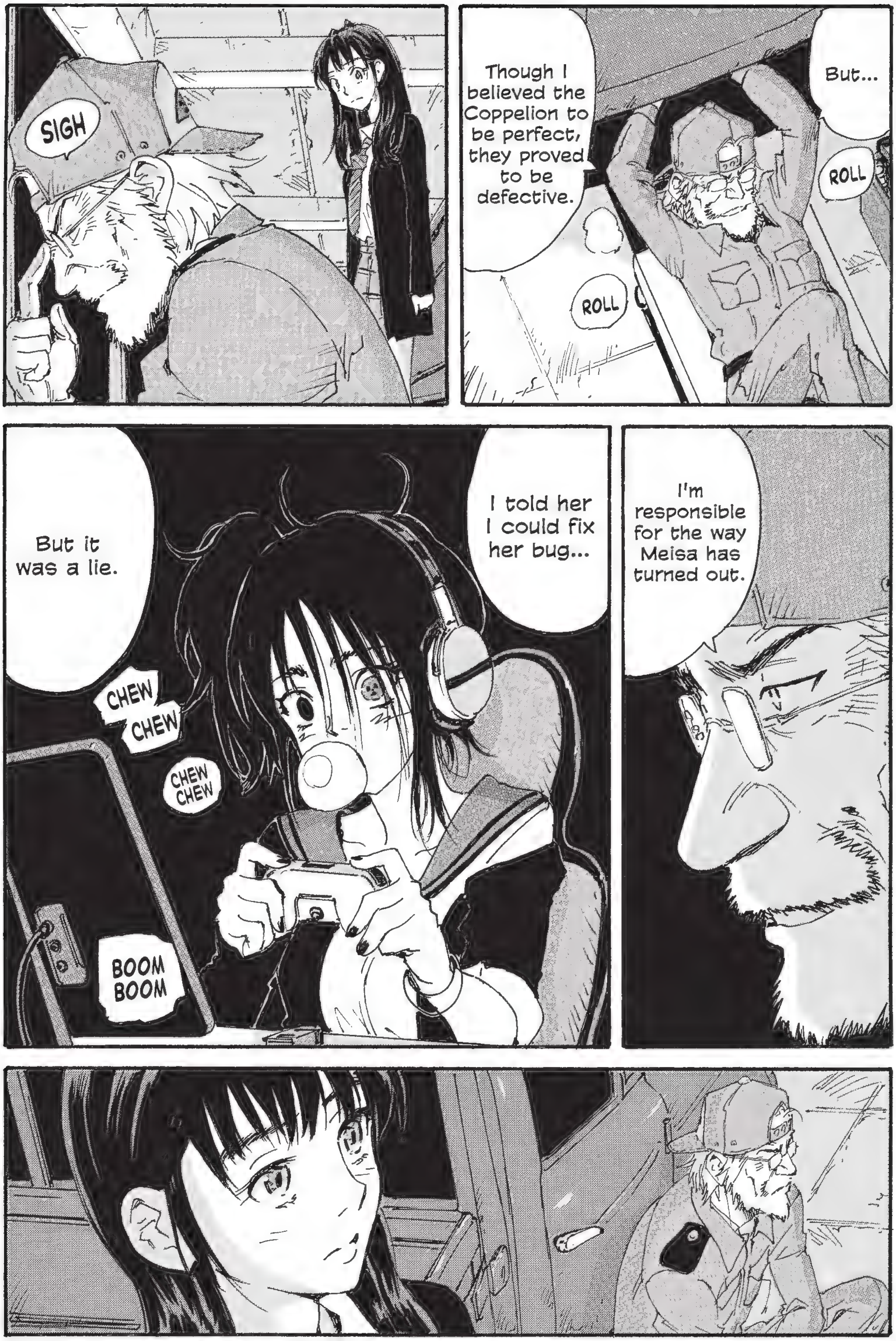

CLINK
CLANG
Think you can get it working?
The older the vehicle...
CLACK
...the more simple its design.

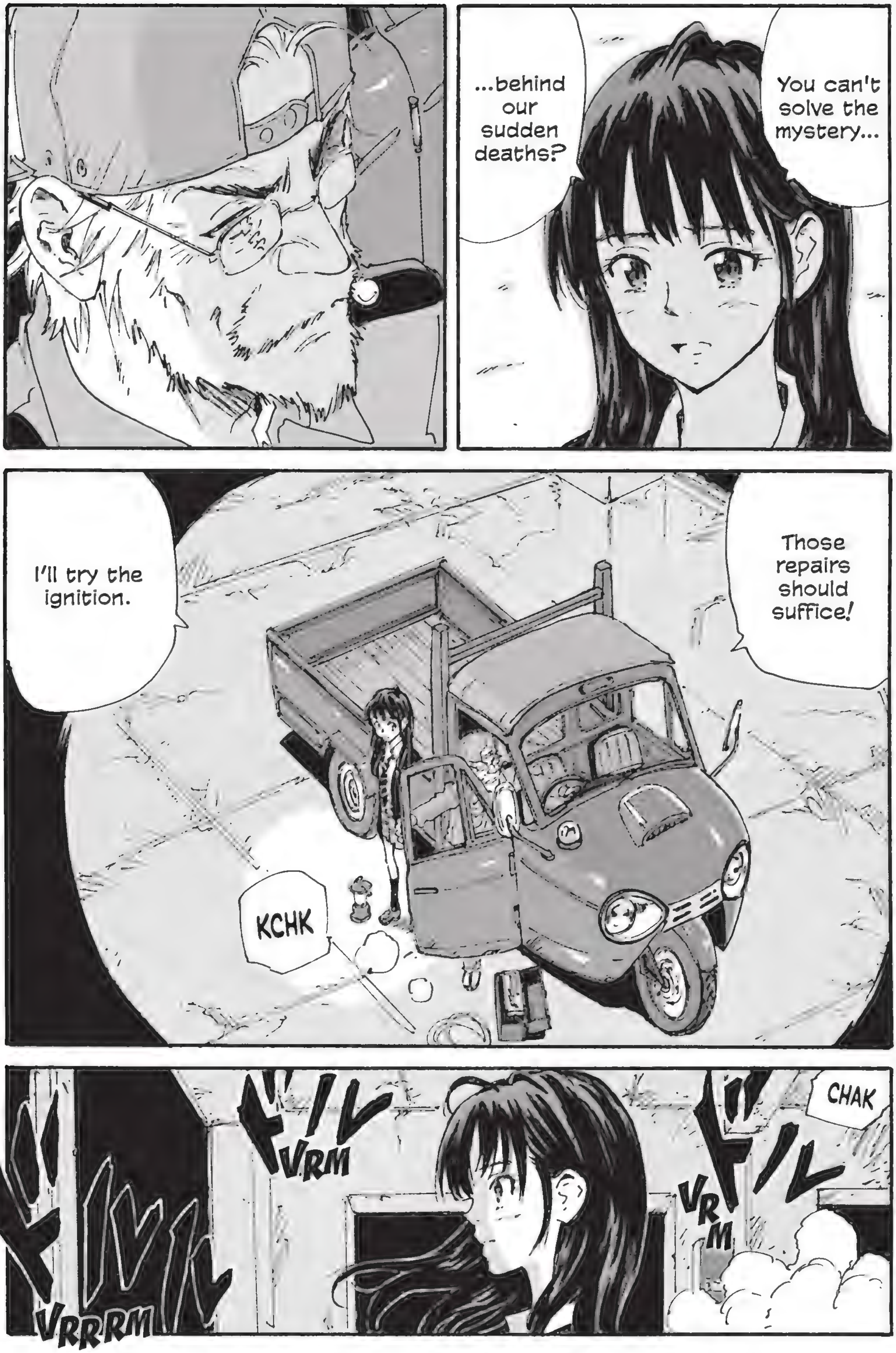

HRRNG
ZZZ
SWISH
CREAK
CREAK
CLANG
You want to change the world...
Did you start thinking that...
Because of your daughter Setsuna?

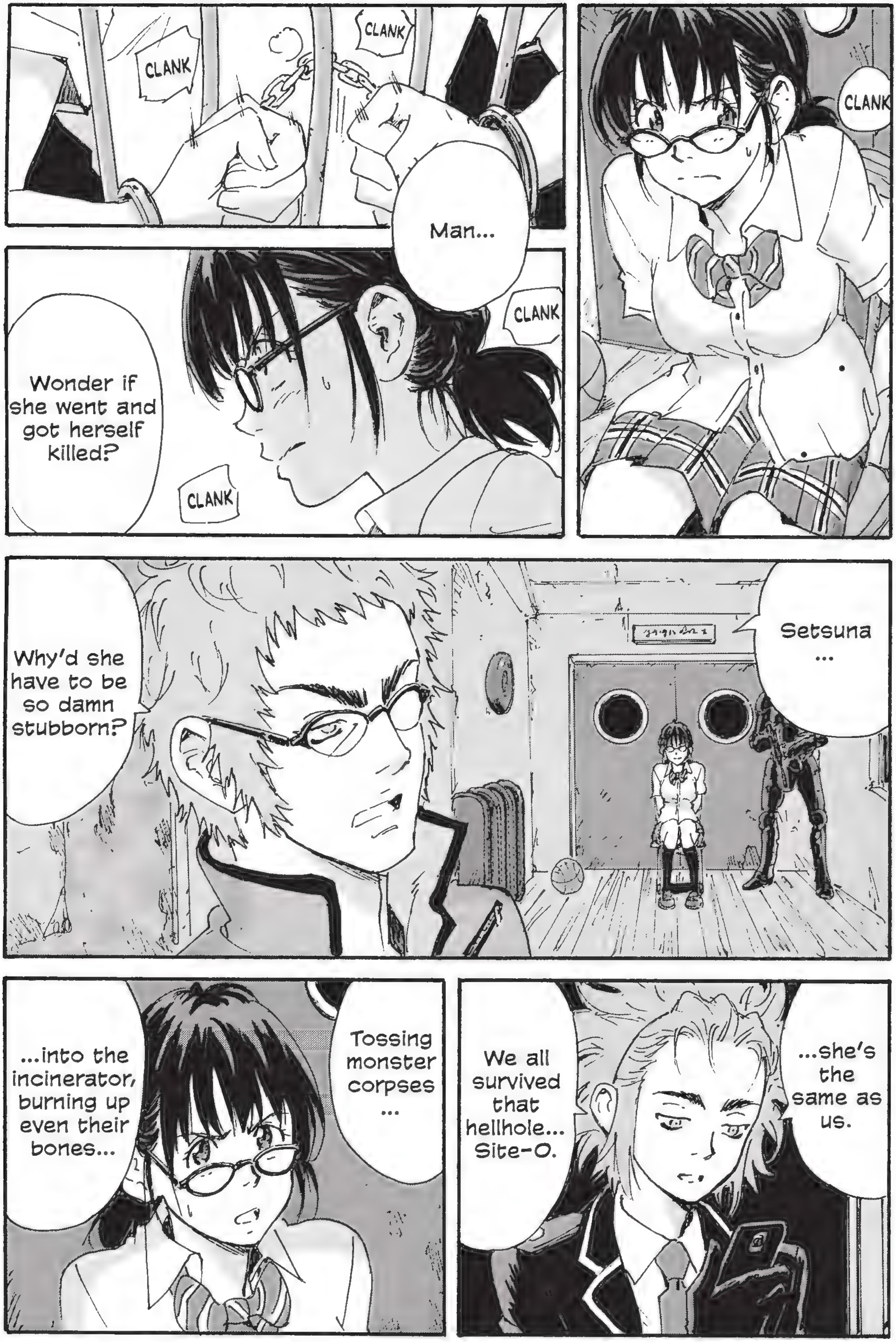

Ah, yes. We left off in the middle of our conversation.
I planned to use an embryo from my own offspring in my research on regenerative medicine...
But the mother took you to court over child custody.
And you lost.
...
BONK
Because I didn't lawyer up!
Afterward, my life fell apart...
...as if I were tumbling further and further down a staircase.
The academic world shunned me for trying to use an embryo for research.
CLOP
My university suddenly cut off my funding.
CLOP
DING DONG
Then, one day...

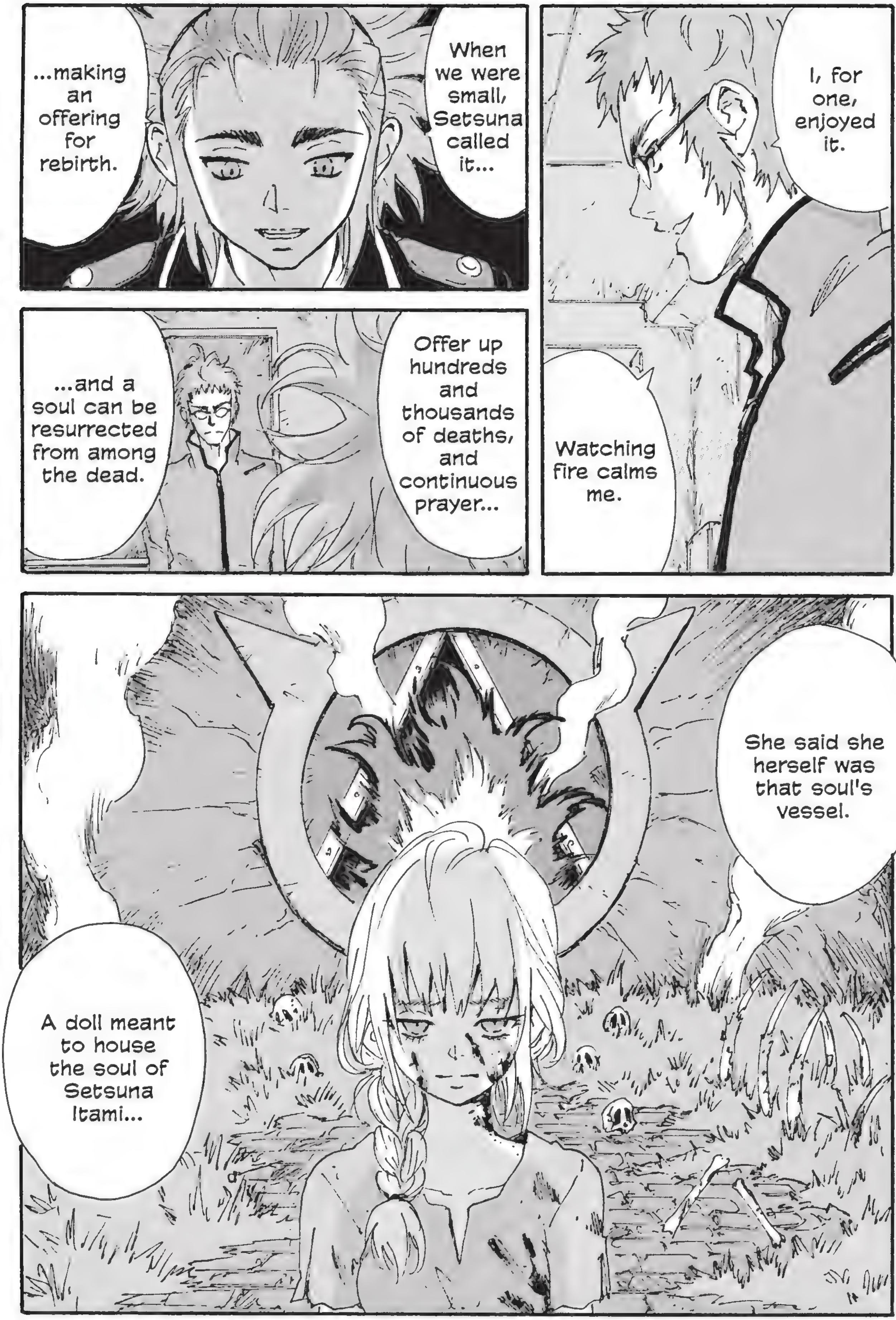

KREE
I saw my daughter for the first time in five years.
Something that had once been but an embryo had grown into a human and now stood before me.
Her mother... had abused her.
I, her biological father, was her only remaining relative.
That was how...
We began our strange life together as parent and child.

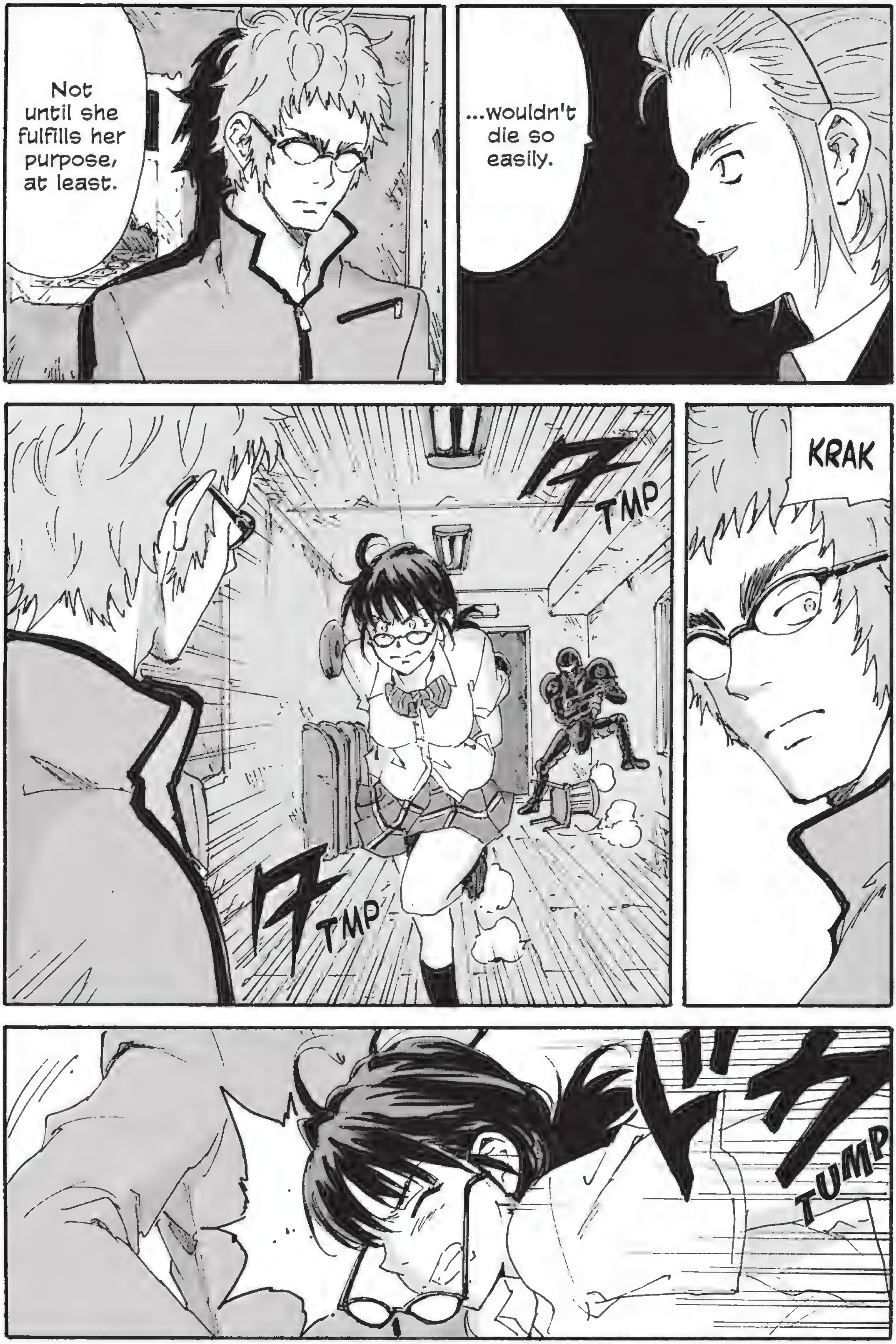

...
So you took her in?
I wasn't angry with her mother.
I'm quite accustomed to human imperfection.
ROLL
Humans are not machines, no matter how much you try to repair them.
Sometimes they make mistakes. Like beating children...
Or starting foolish wars.
Humans must evolve...
...so that these tragedies will never strike again.

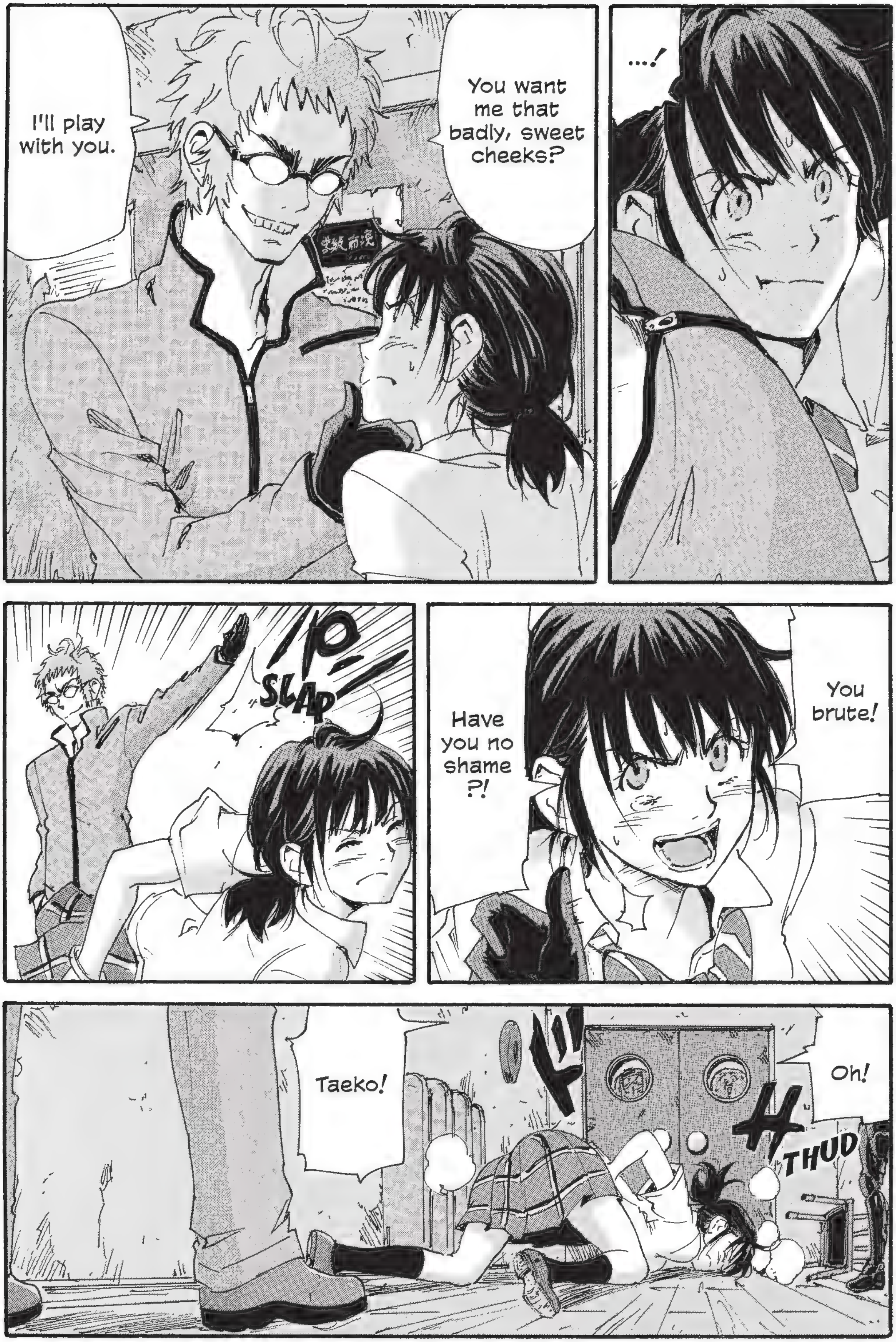

But...
Though I believed the Coppelion to be perfect, they proved to be defective.
ROLL
ROLL
SIGH
I'm responsible for the way Meisa has turned out.
I told her I could fix her bug...
But it was a lie.
CHEW CHEW
CHEW CHEW
BOOM BOOM

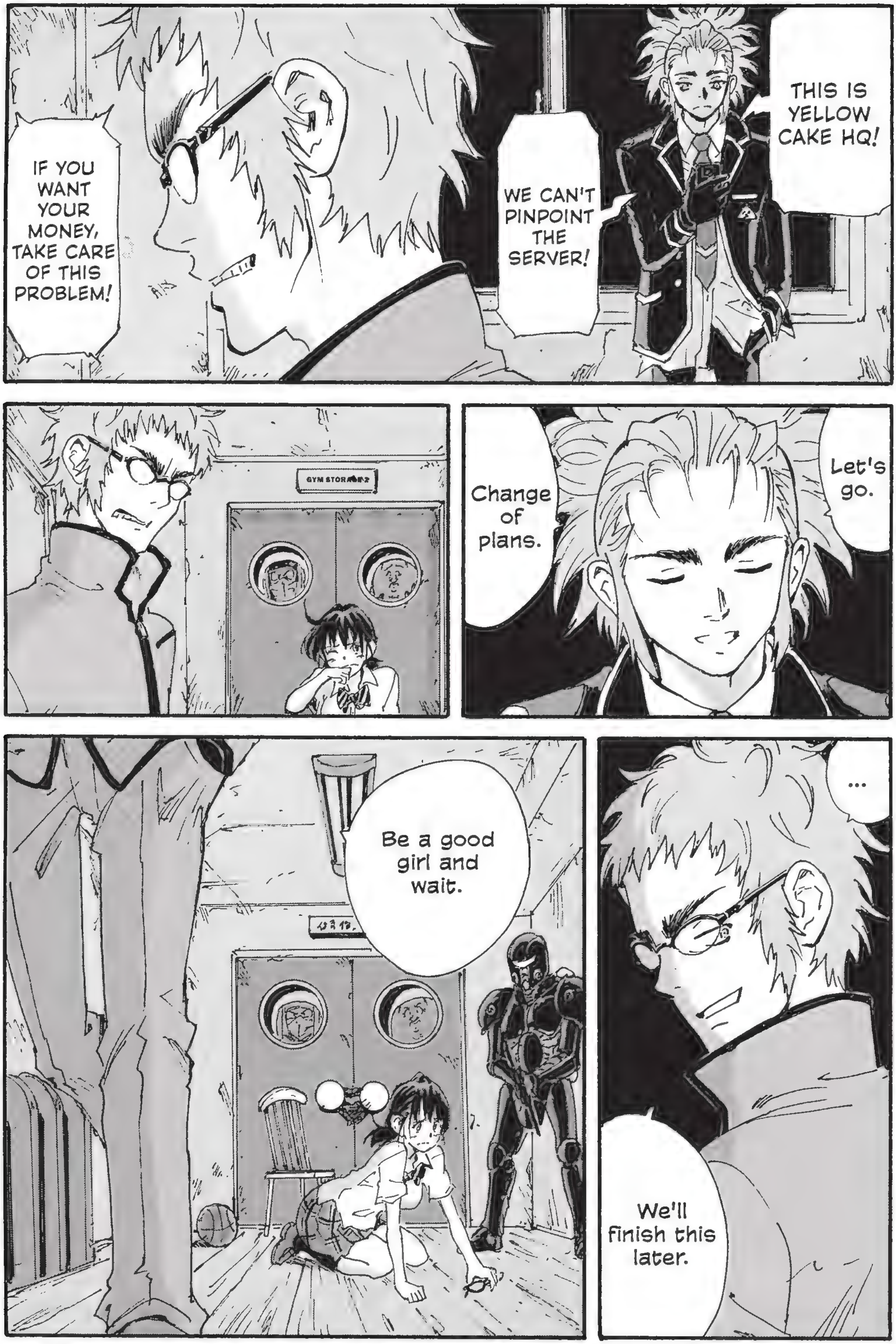

You can't solve the mystery...
...behind our sudden deaths?
Those repairs should suffice!
I'll try the ignition.
KCHK
CHAK
VRM
VRM
VRRRM

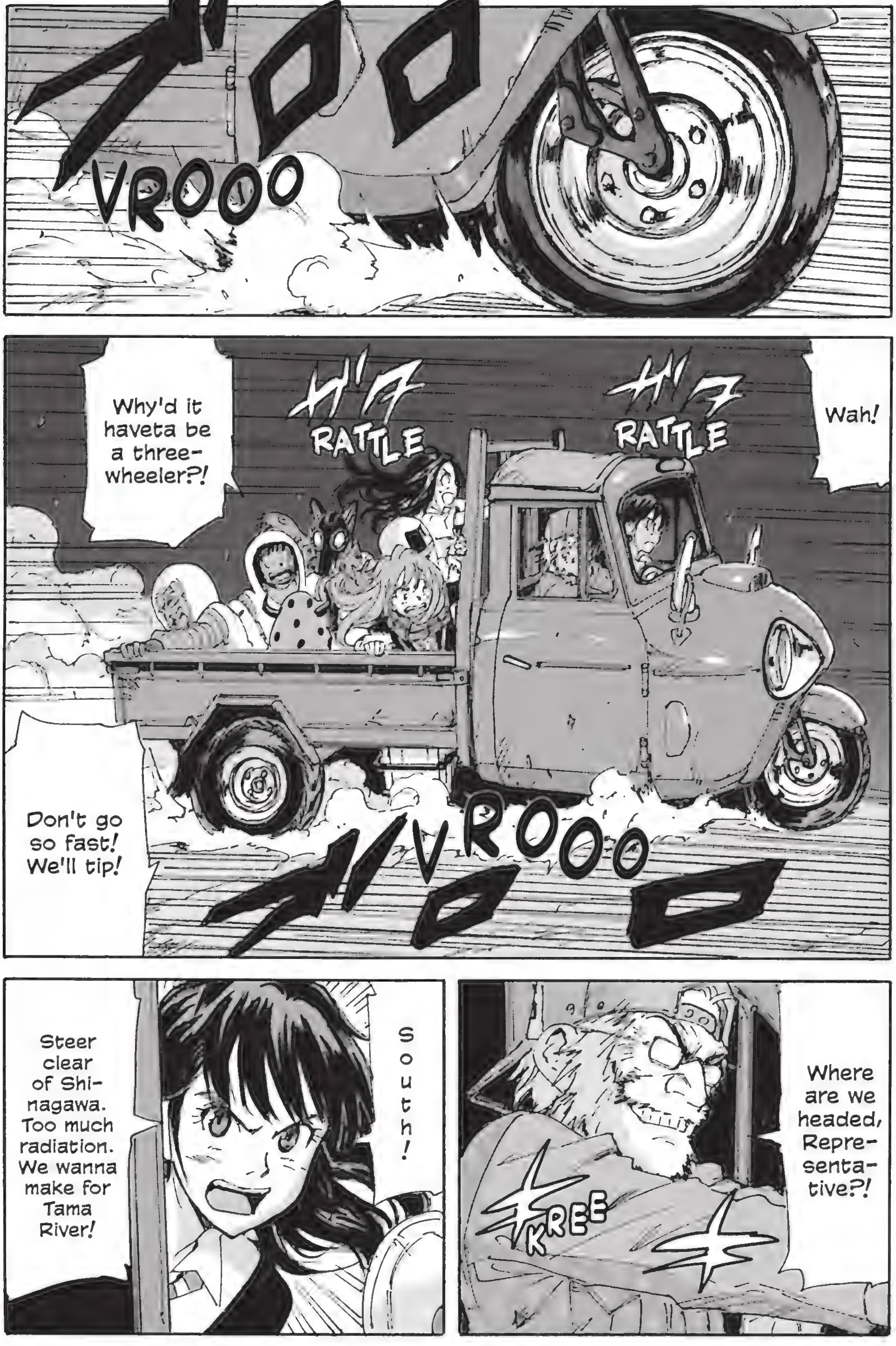

CLANK
CLANK
CLANK
Man...
CLANK
Wonder if she went and got herself killed?
CLANK
Setsuna...
Why'd she have to be so damn stubborn?
...she's the same as us.
We all survived that hellhole... Site-O.
Tossing monster corpses...
...into the incinerator, burning up even their bones...

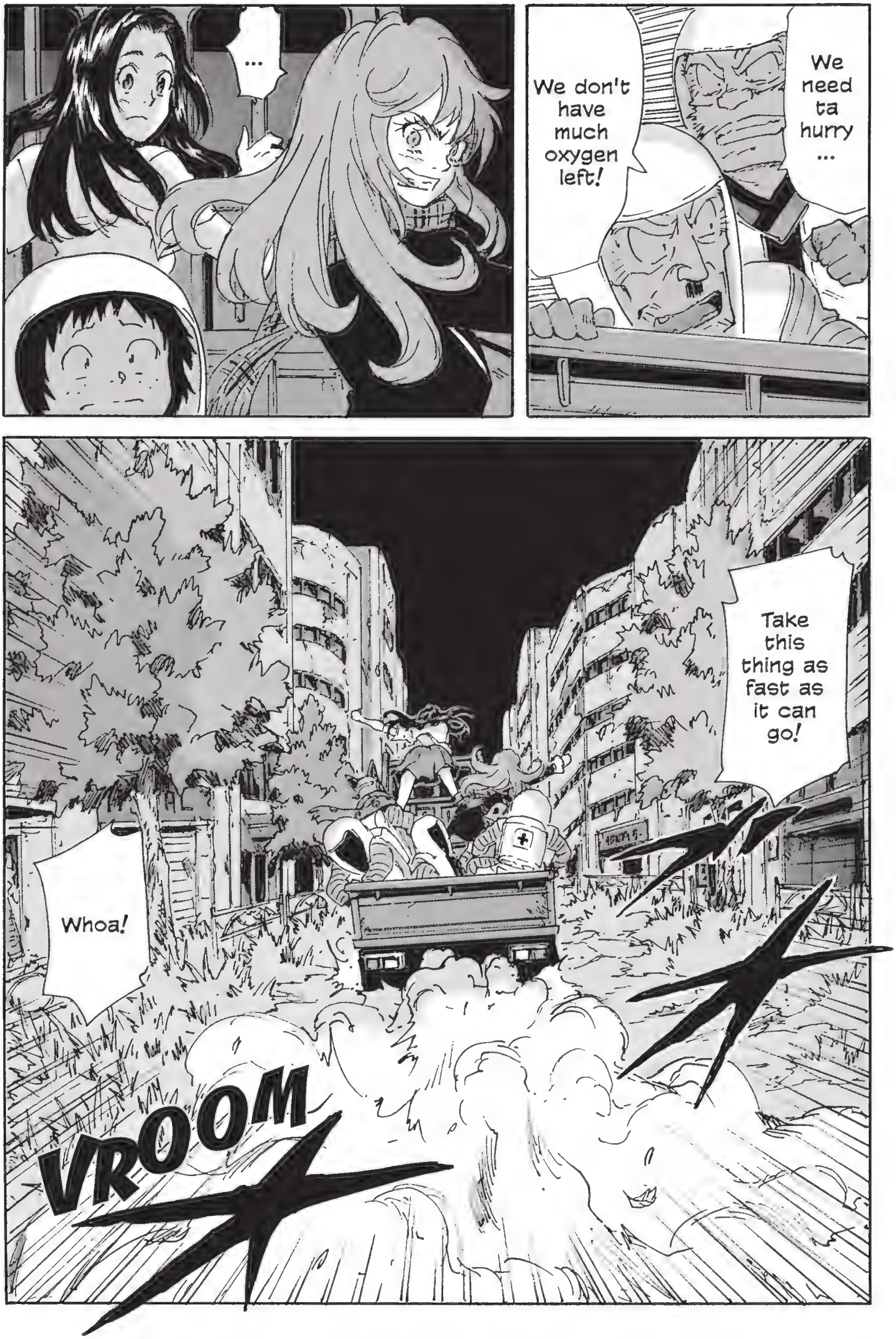

When we were small, Setsuna called it...
...making an offering for rebirth.
Offer up hundreds and thousands of deaths, and continuous prayer...
...and a soul can be resurrected from among the dead.
I, for one, enjoyed it.
Watching fire calms me.
A doll meant to house the soul of Setsuna Itami...
She said she herself was that soul's vessel.


...wouldn't die so easily.
Not until she fulfills her purpose, at least.
KRAK
TMP
TMP
TUMP

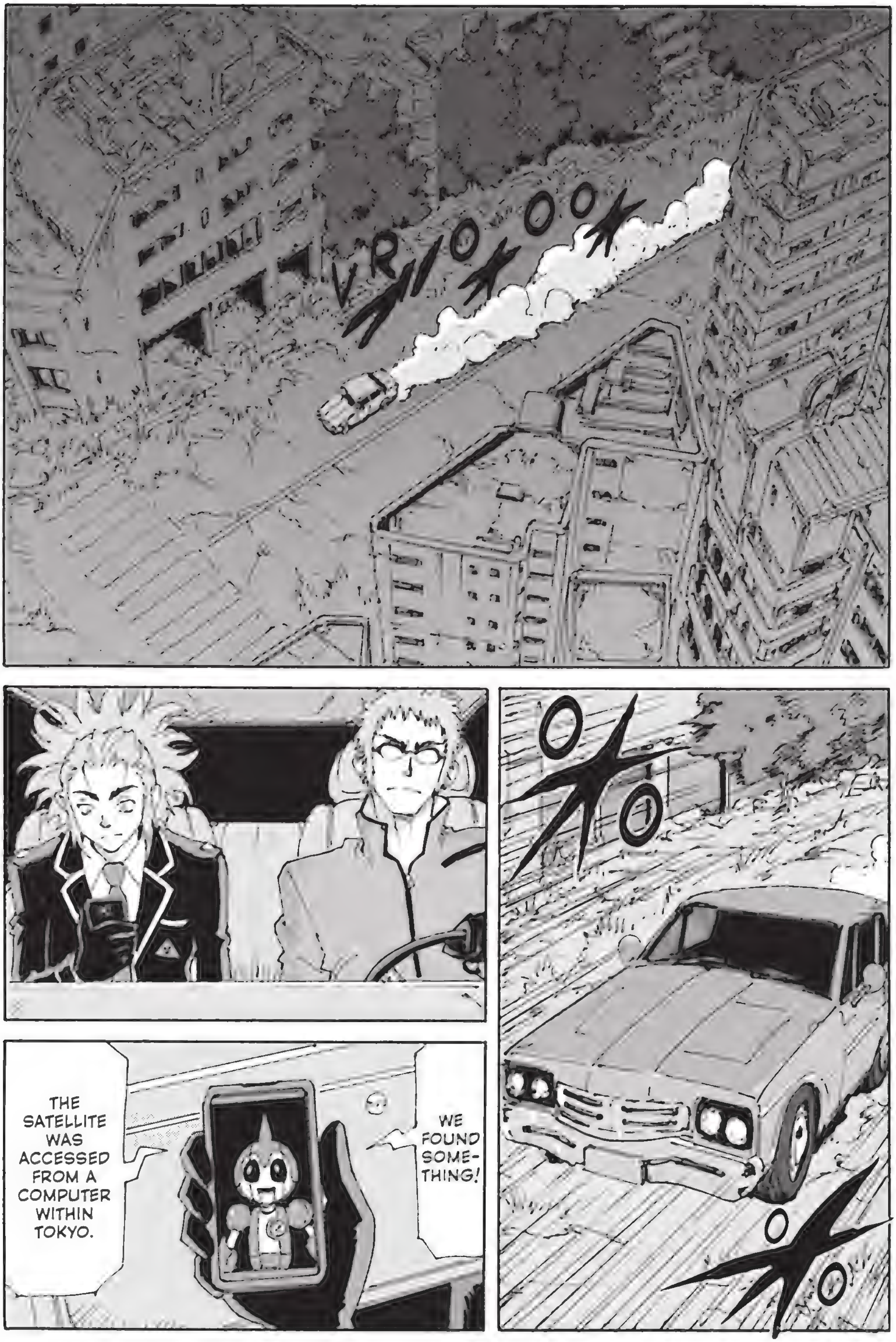

You want me that badly, sweet cheeks?
I'll play with you.
...!
SLAP
You brute!
Have you no shame?!
Taeko!
THUD
Oh!

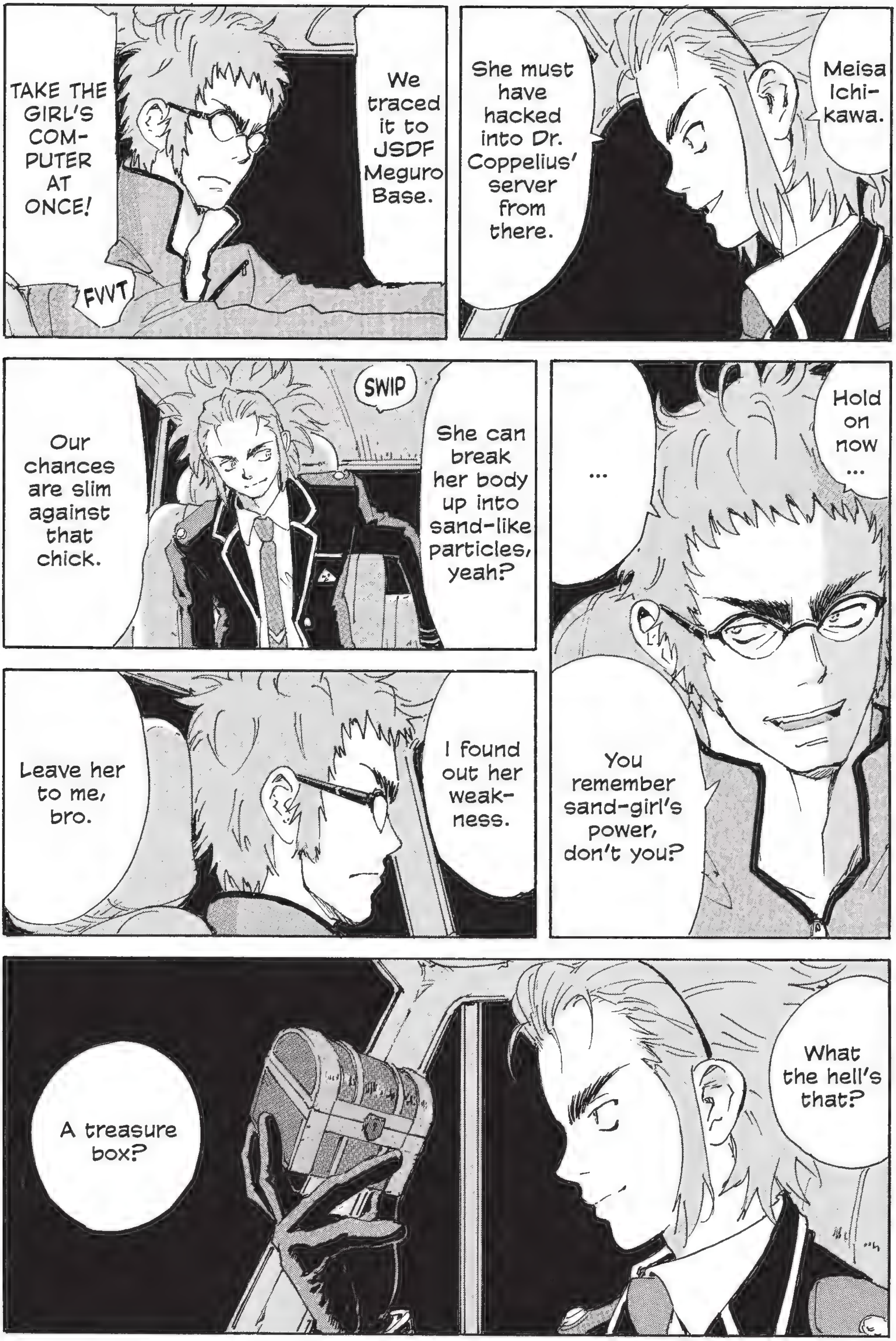

THIS IS YELLOW CAKE HQ!
WE CAN'T PINPOINT THE SERVER!
IF YOU WANT YOUR MONEY, TAKE CARE OF THIS PROBLEM!
Let's go.
Change of plans.
...
We'll finish this later.
Be a good girl and wait.

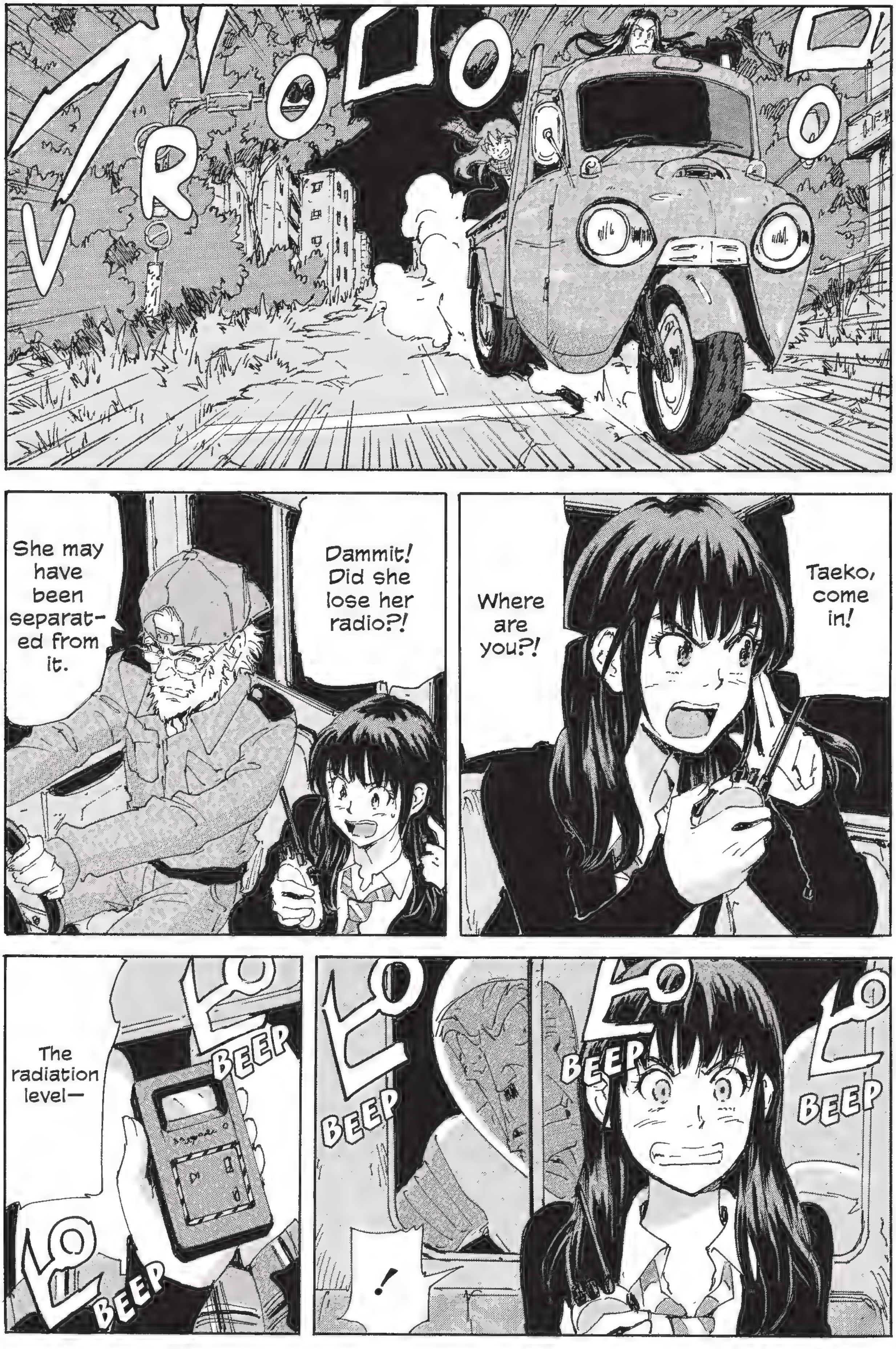

VROOO
Wah!
RATTLE
RATTLE
Why'd it haveta be a three-wheeler?!
Don't go so fast! We'll tip!
VROOO
Where are we headed, Representative?!
KREE
South!
Steer clear of Shinagawa. Too much radiation. We wanna make for Tama River!

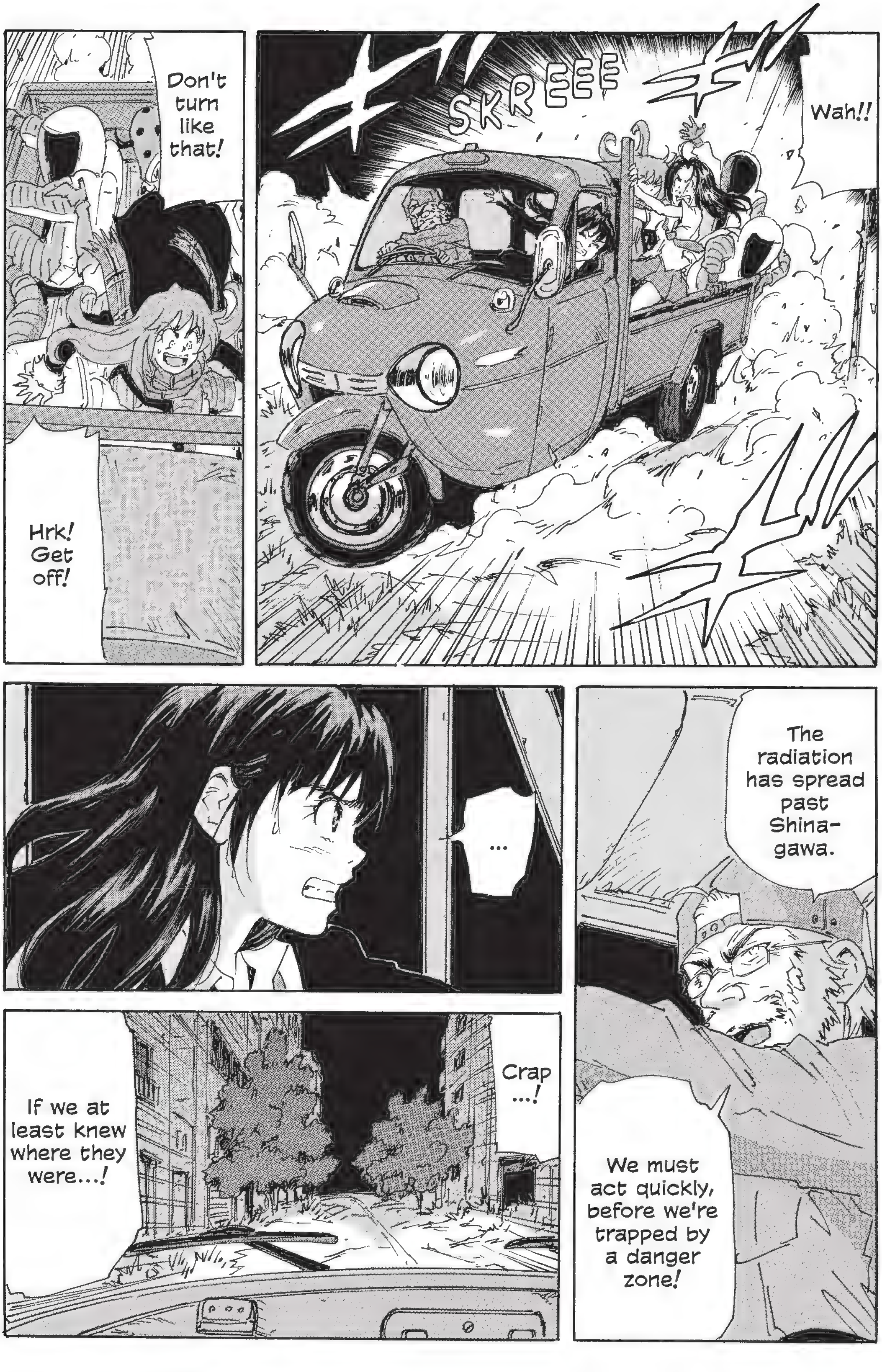

We need ta hurry ...
We don't have much oxygen left!
...
Take this thing as fast as it can go!
Whoa!
VROOM

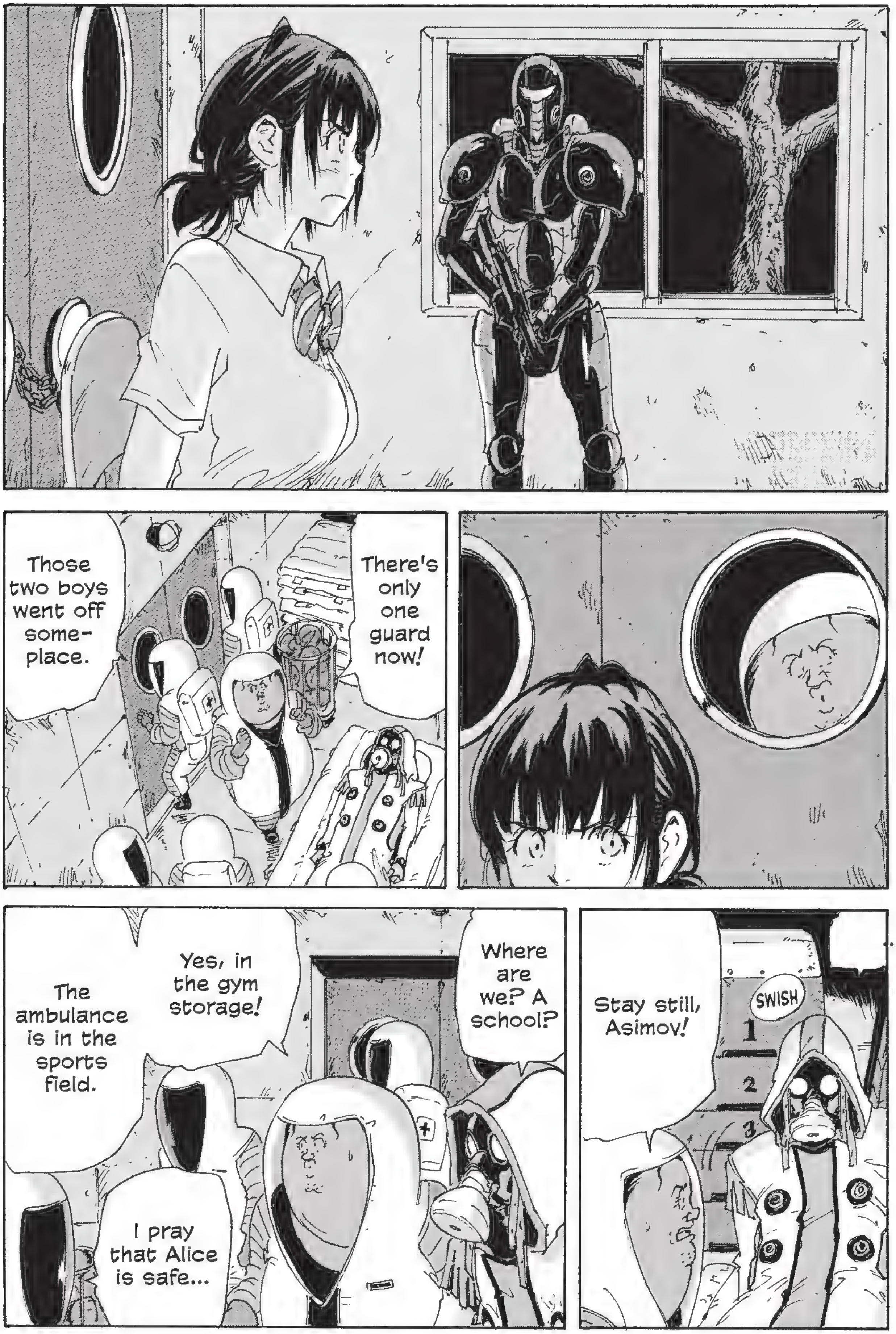
Act.26【 Mana's Secret 】

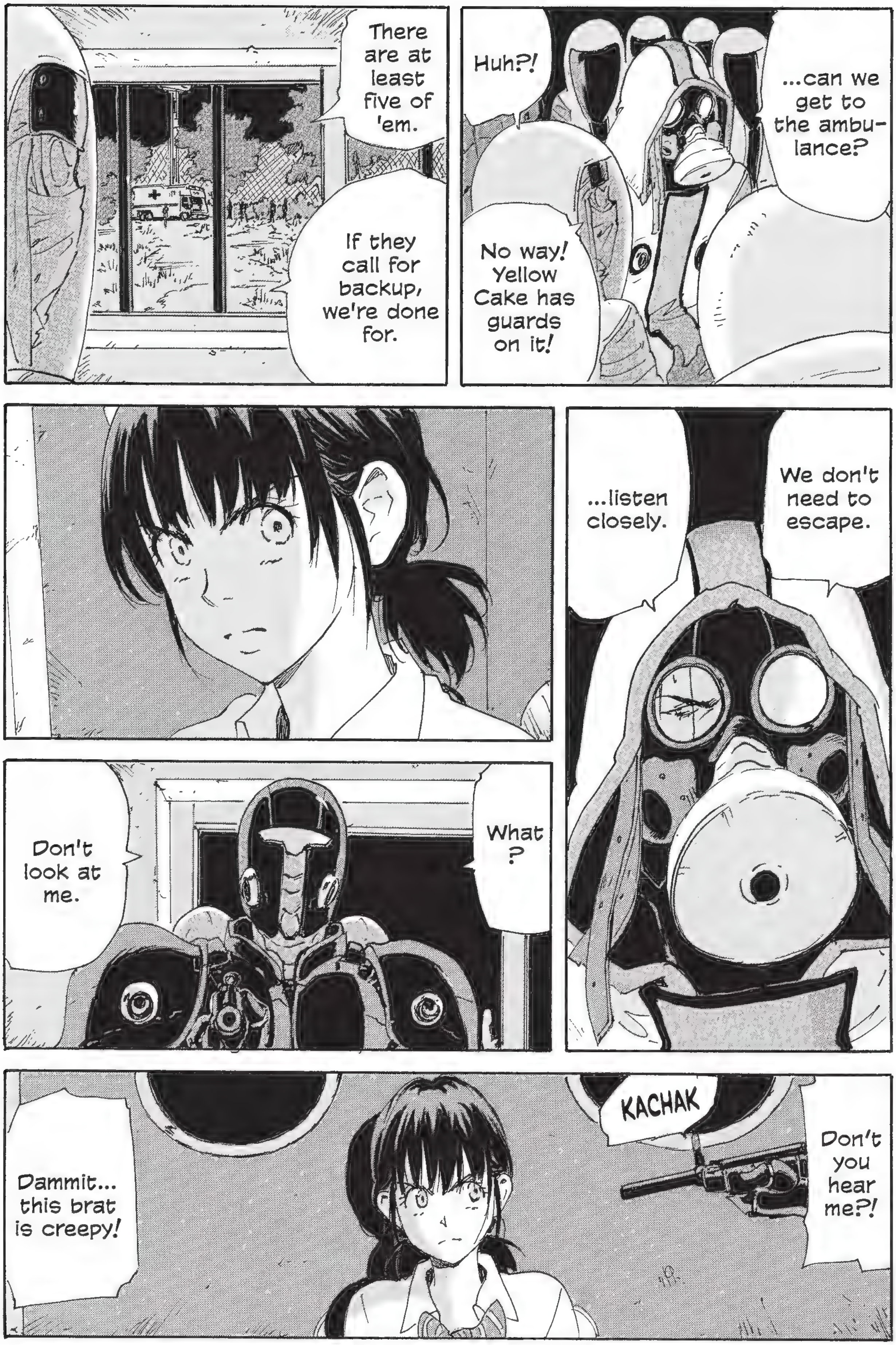

VROOOOM
WE FOUND SOMETHING!
THE SATELLITE WAS ACCESSED FROM A COMPUTER WITHIN TOKYO.

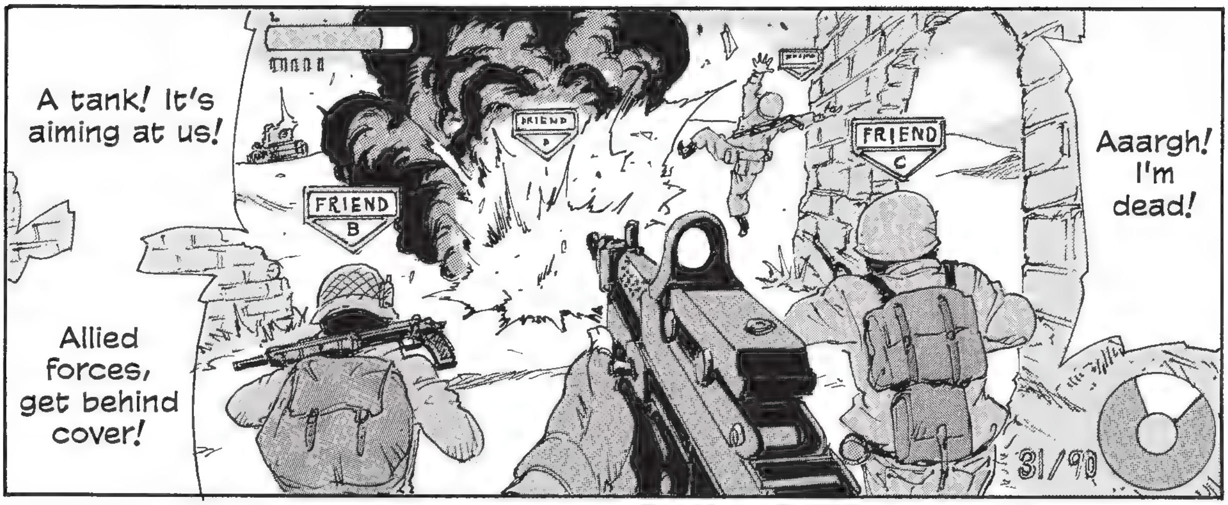

Meisa Ichikawa.
She must have hacked into Dr. Coppelius' server from there.
We traced it to JSDF Meguro Base.
TAKE THE GIRL'S COMPUTER AT ONCE!
FVVT
Hold on now...
...
You remember sand-girl's power, don't you?
SWIP
She can break her body up into sand-like particles, yeah?
Our chances are slim against that chick.
I found out her weakness.
Leave her to me, bro.
What the hell's that?
A treasure box?

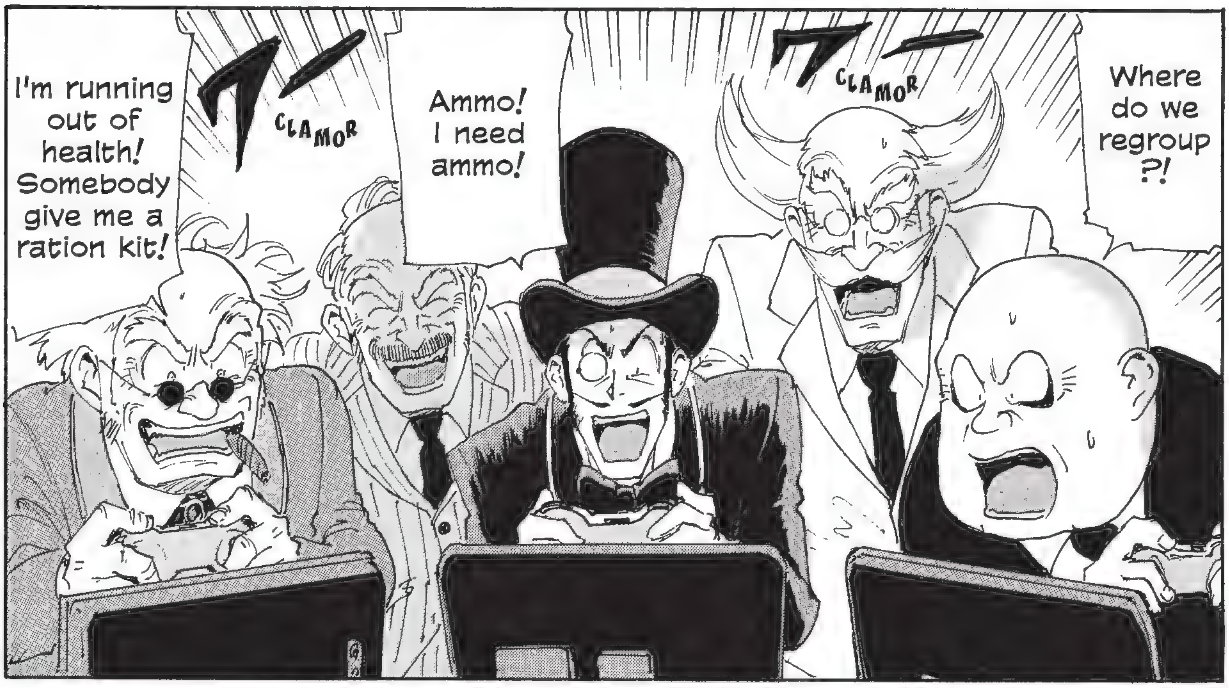

VROOOOO
Taeko, come in!
Where are you?!
Dammit! Did she lose her radio?!
She may have been separated from it.
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
!
The radiation level—
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP

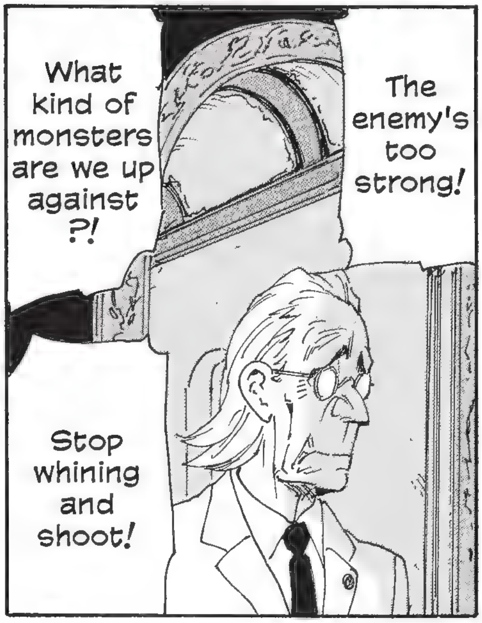

SKREEE
Wah!!
Don't turn like that!
Hrk! Get off!
The radiation has spread past Shinagawa.
...
We must act quickly, before we're trapped by a danger zone!
Crap...!
If we at least knew where they were...!

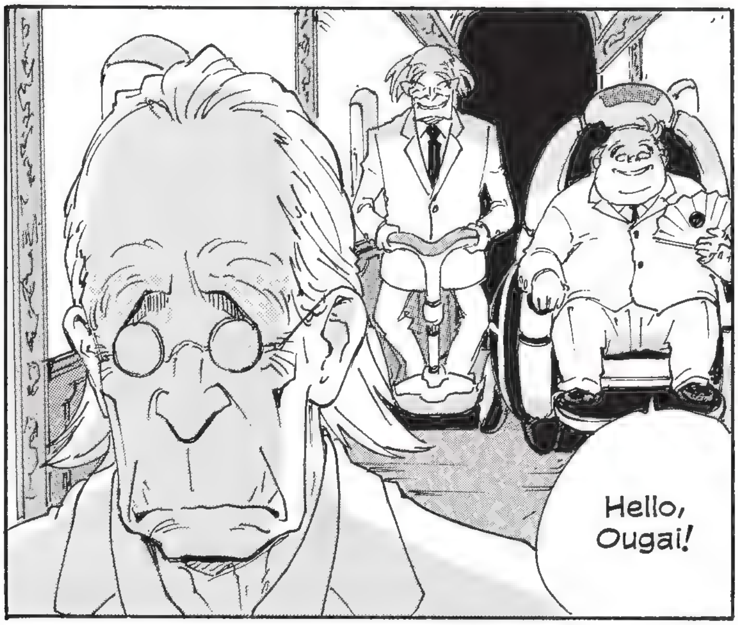

There's only one guard now!
Those two boys went off someplace.
Stay still, Asimov!
SWISH
1
2
3
Where are we? A school?
Yes, in the gym storage!
The ambulance is in the sports field.
I pray that Alice is safe...

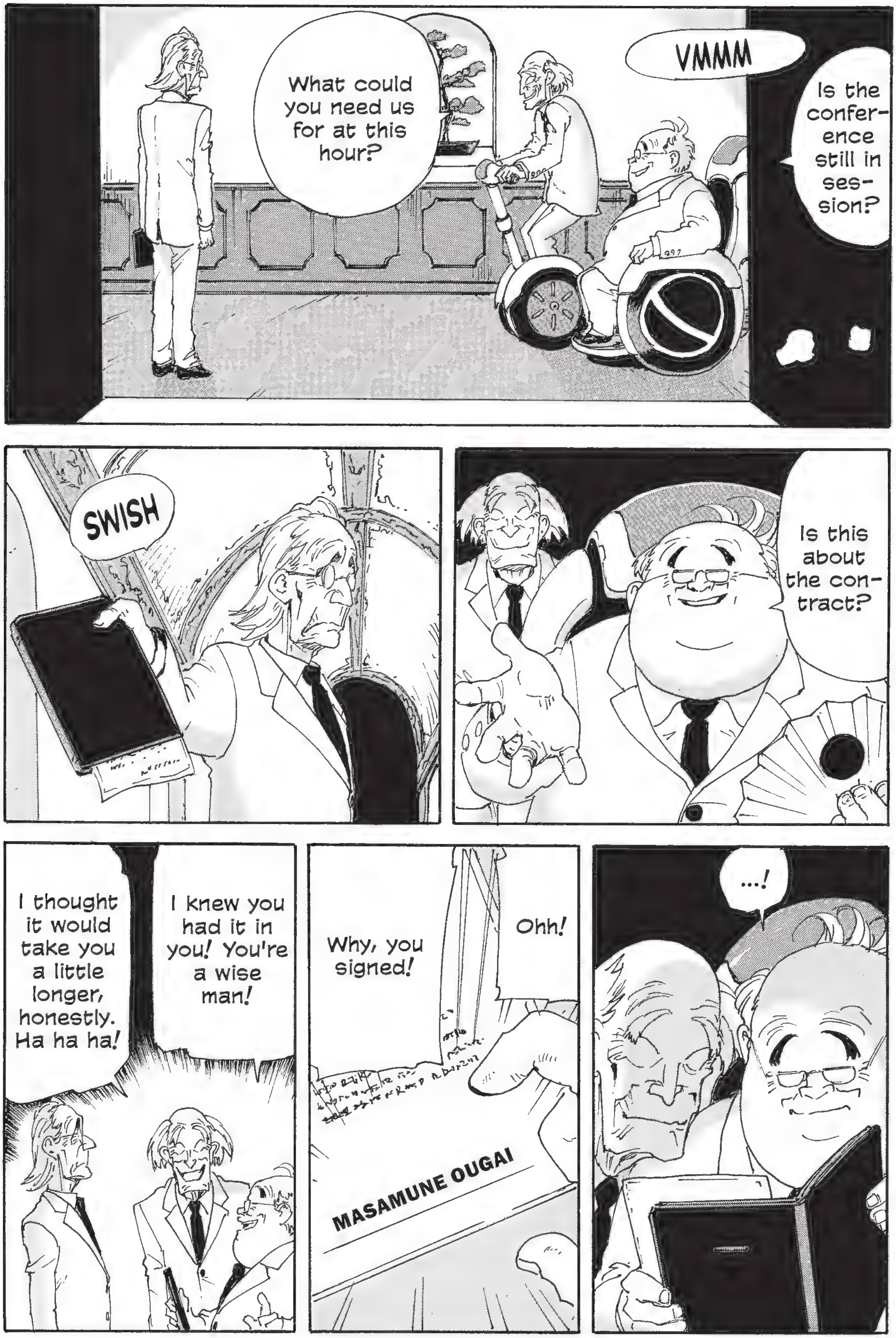

...can we get to the ambulance?
Huh?!
No way! Yellow Cake has guards on it!
There are at least five of 'em.
If they call for backup, we're done for.
We don't need to escape.
...listen closely.
What?
Don't look at me.
KACHAK
Don't you hear me?!
Dammit... this brat is creepy!

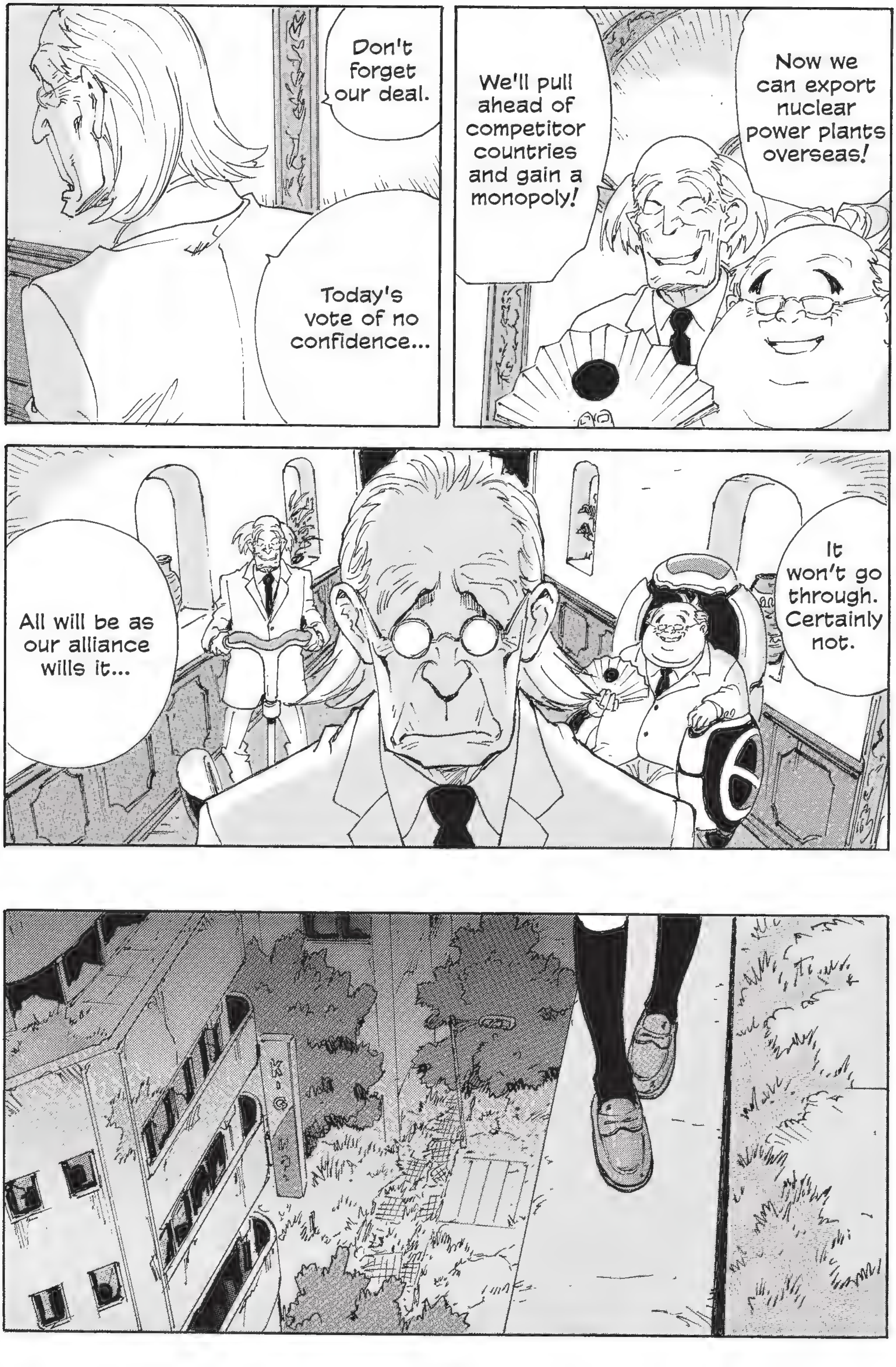

Aaargh! I'm dead!
FRIEND C
FRIEND B
A tank! It's aiming at us!
FRIEND B
Allied forces, get behind cover!
31/90

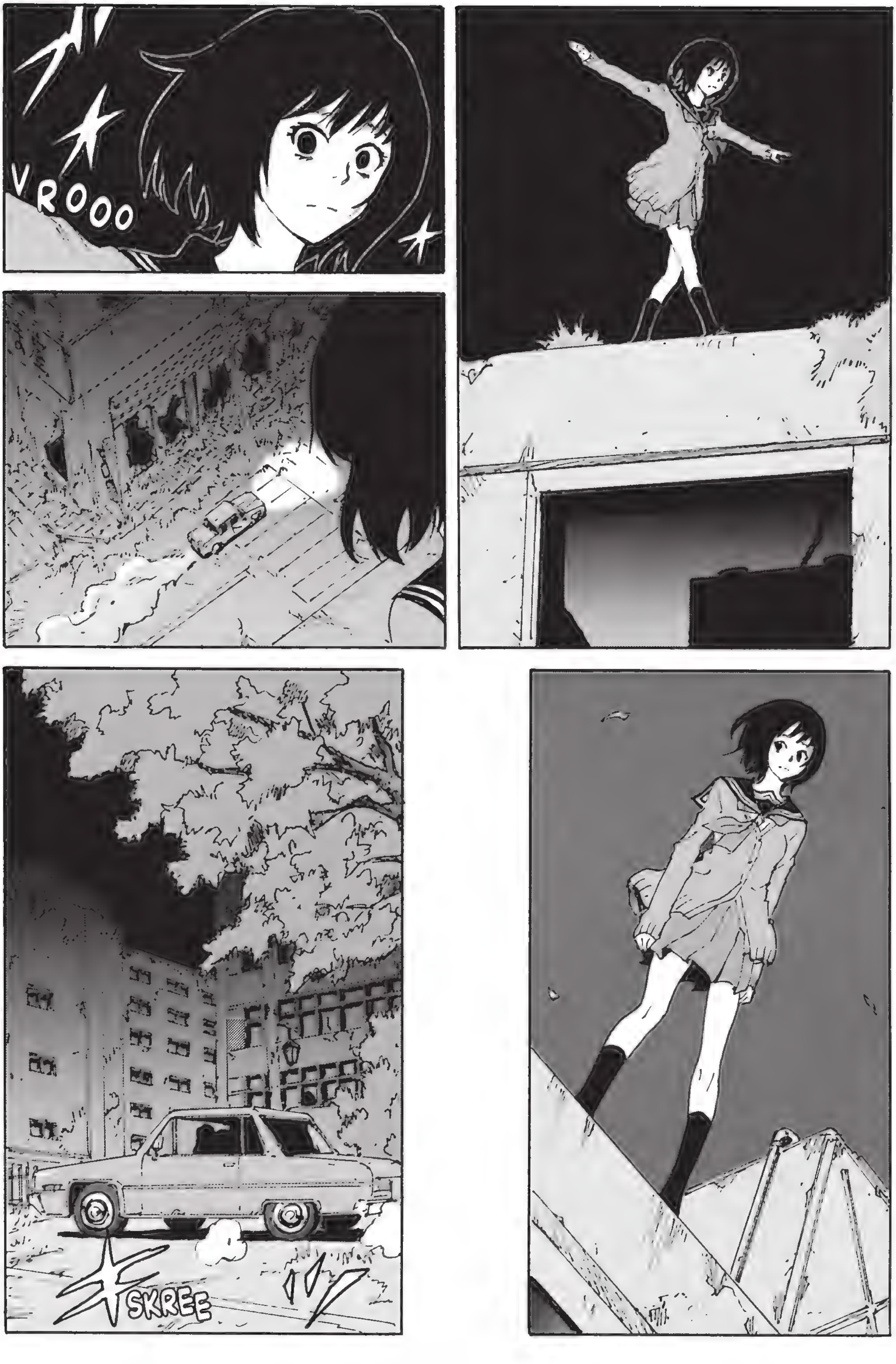

Where do we regroup?!
ワー
CLAMOR
Ammo! I need ammo!
ワー
CLAMOR
I'm running out of health! Somebody give me a ration kit!

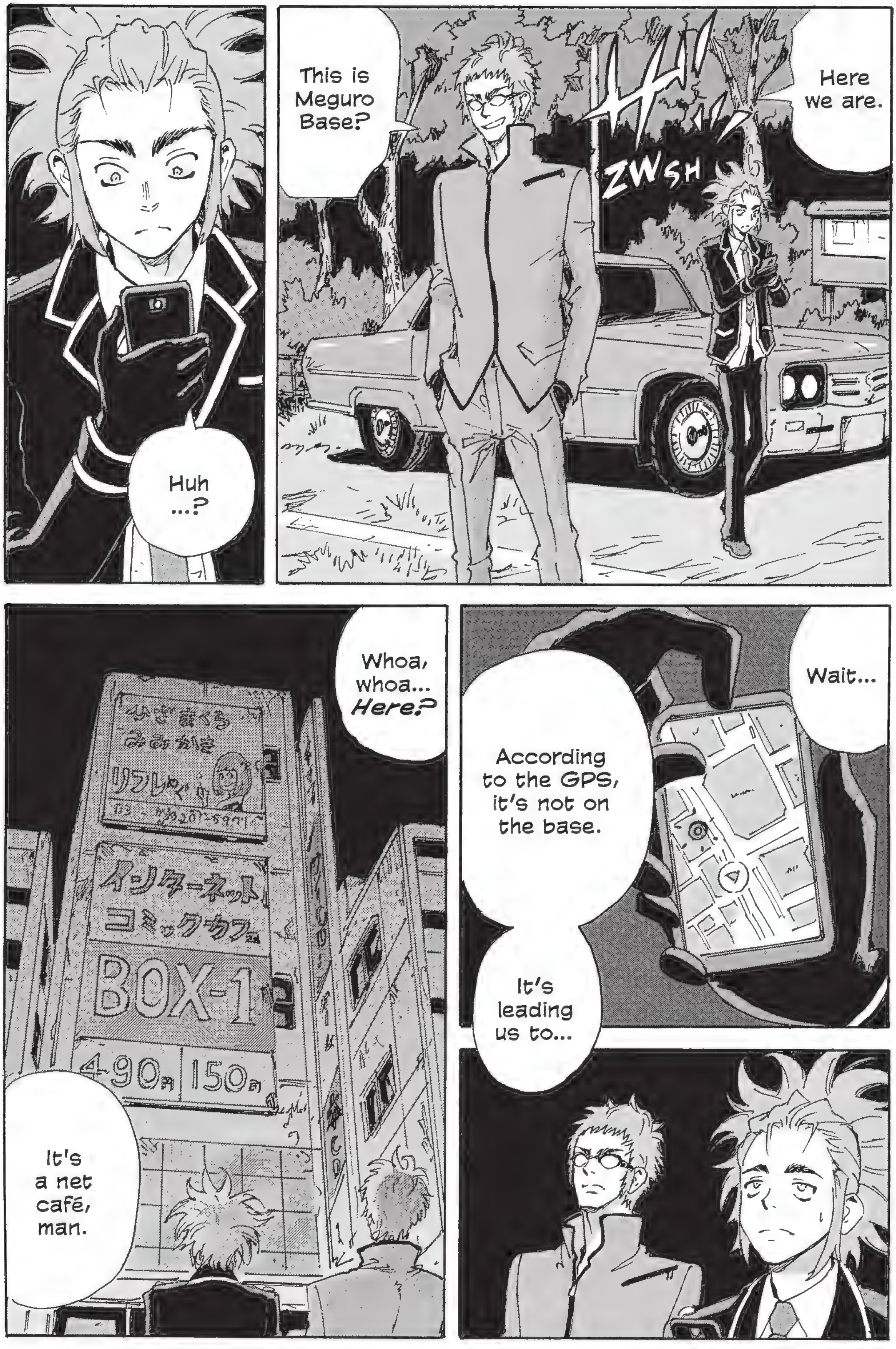

The enemy's too strong!
What kind of monsters are we up against?!
Stop whining and shoot!

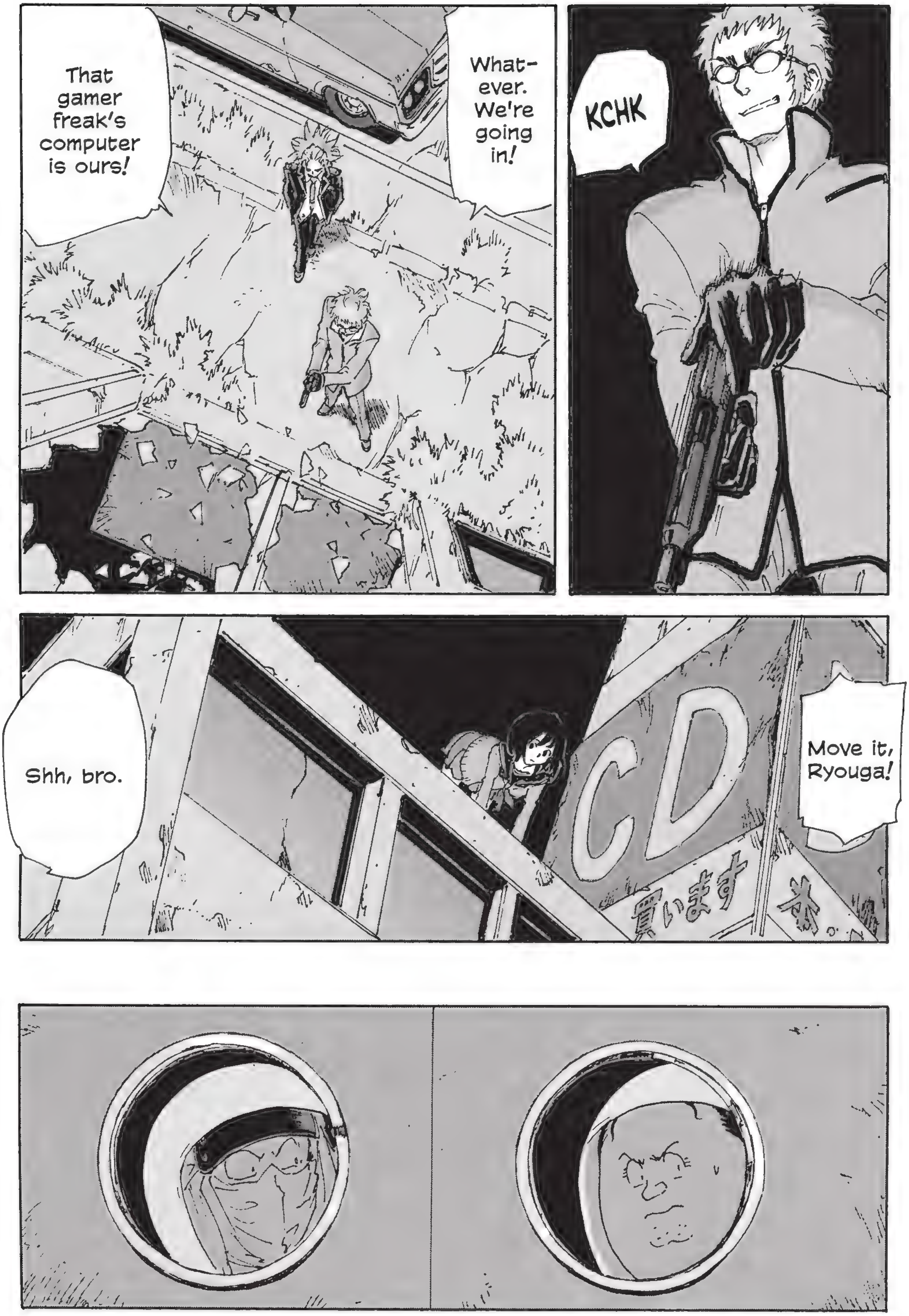

Hello, Ougai!

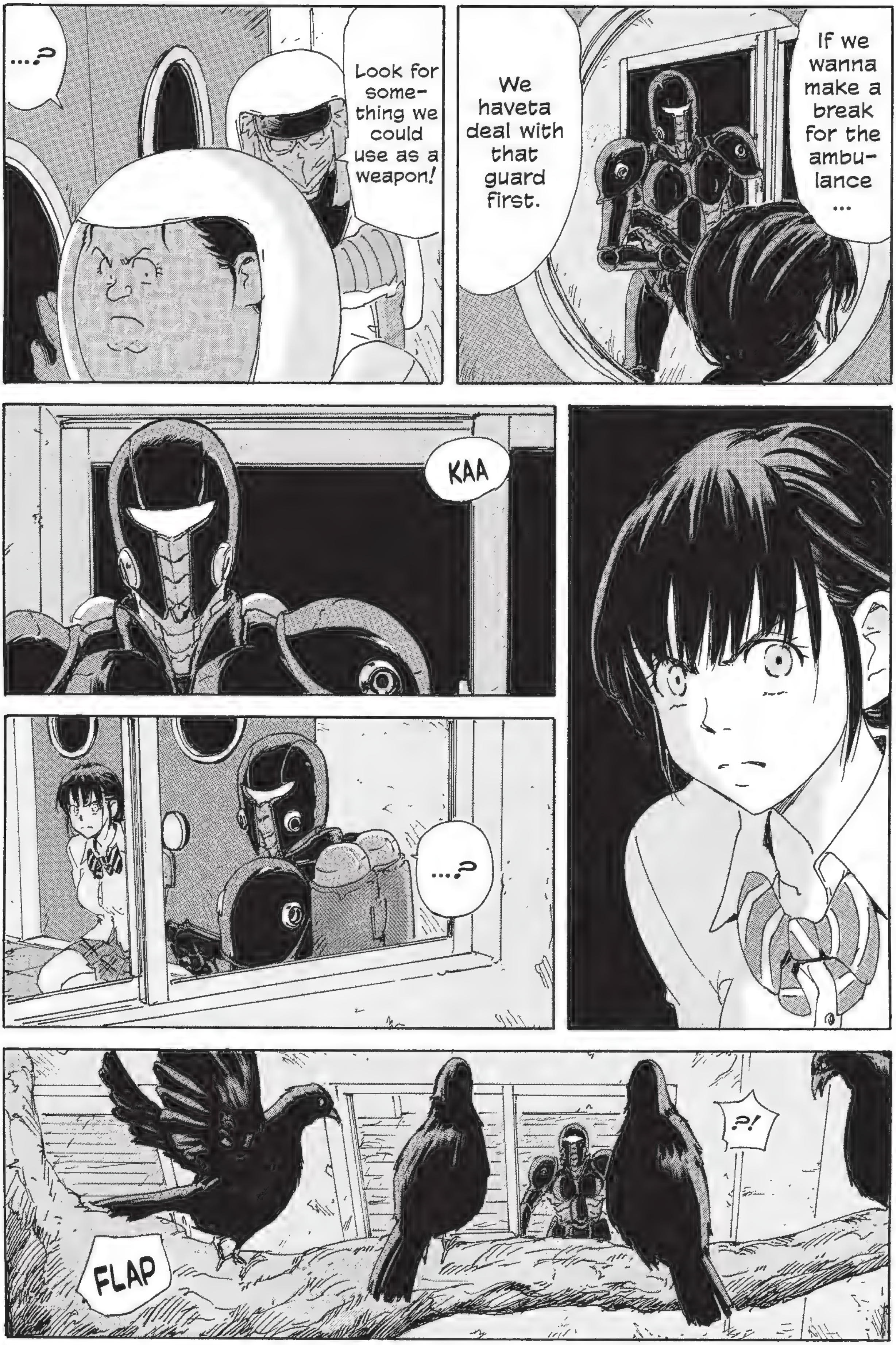

VMMM
Is the conference still in session?
What could you need us for at this hour?
Is this about the contract?
SWISH
...!
Ohh!
Why, you signed!
MASAMUNE OUGAI
I knew you had it in you! You're a wise man!
I thought it would take you a little longer, honestly. Ha ha ha!

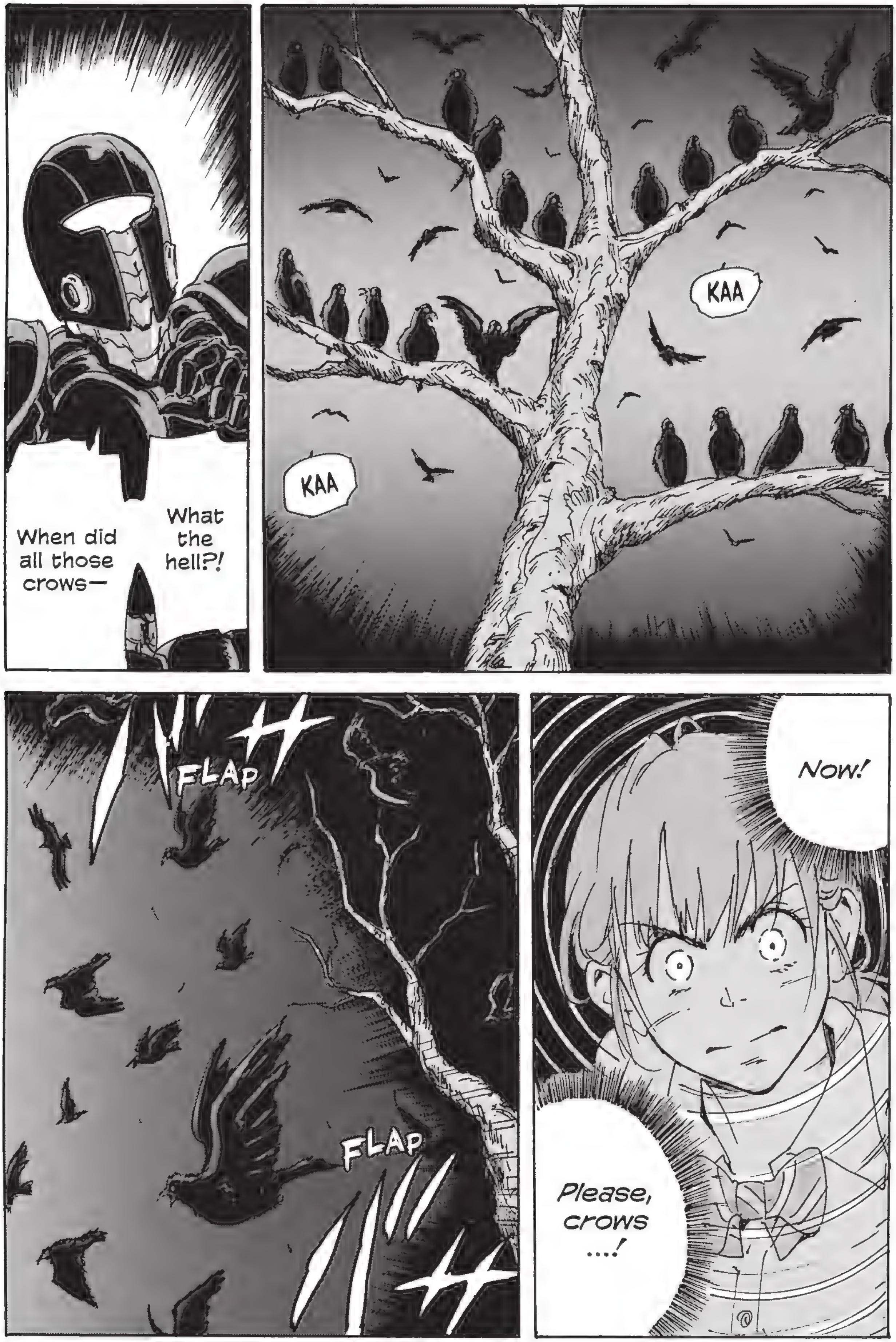

Now we can export nuclear power plants overseas!
We'll pull ahead of competitor countries and gain a monopoly!
Don't forget our deal.
Today's vote of no confidence...
It won't go through. Certainly not.
All will be as our alliance wills it...

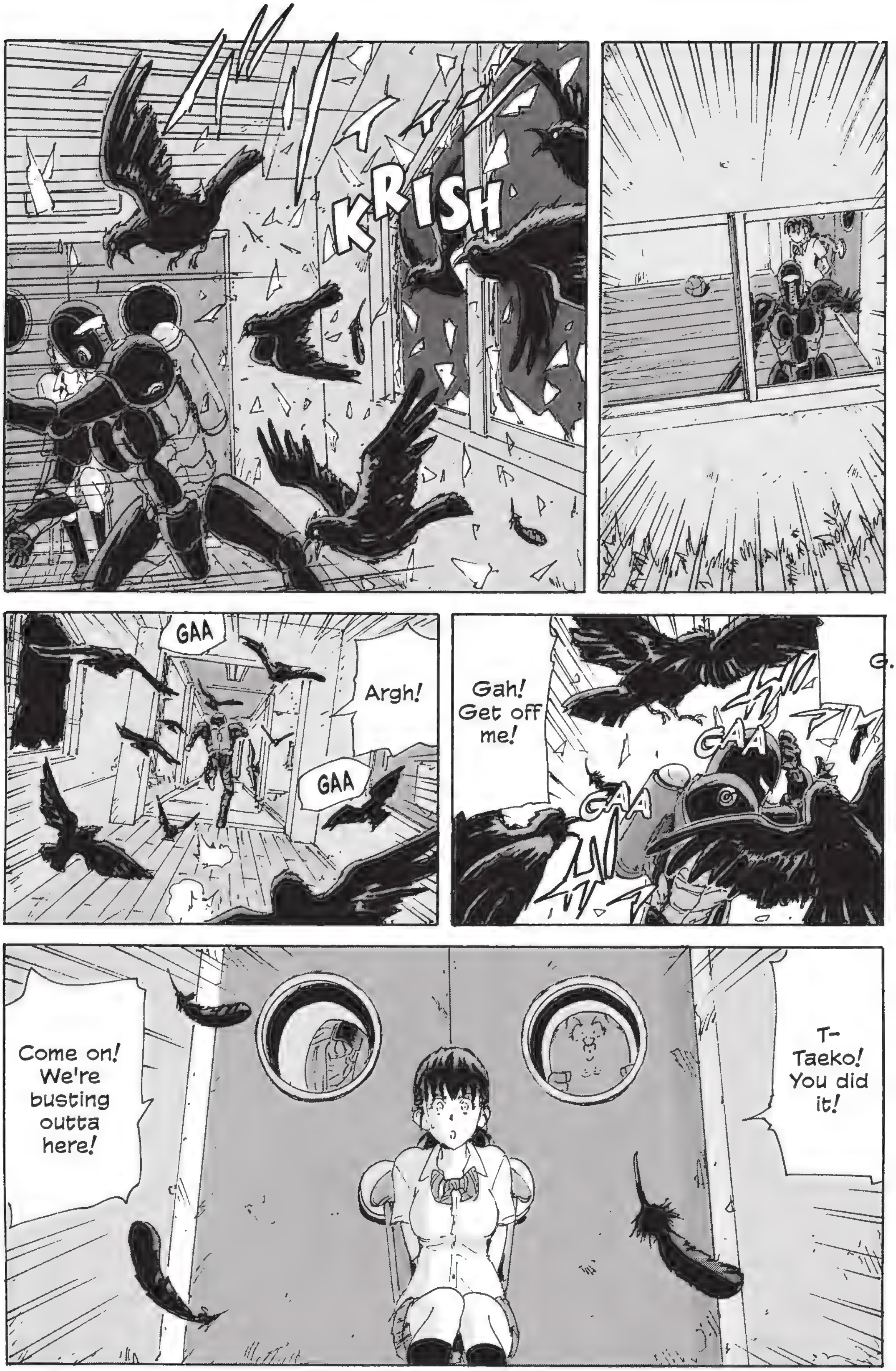

VROOO
SKREE

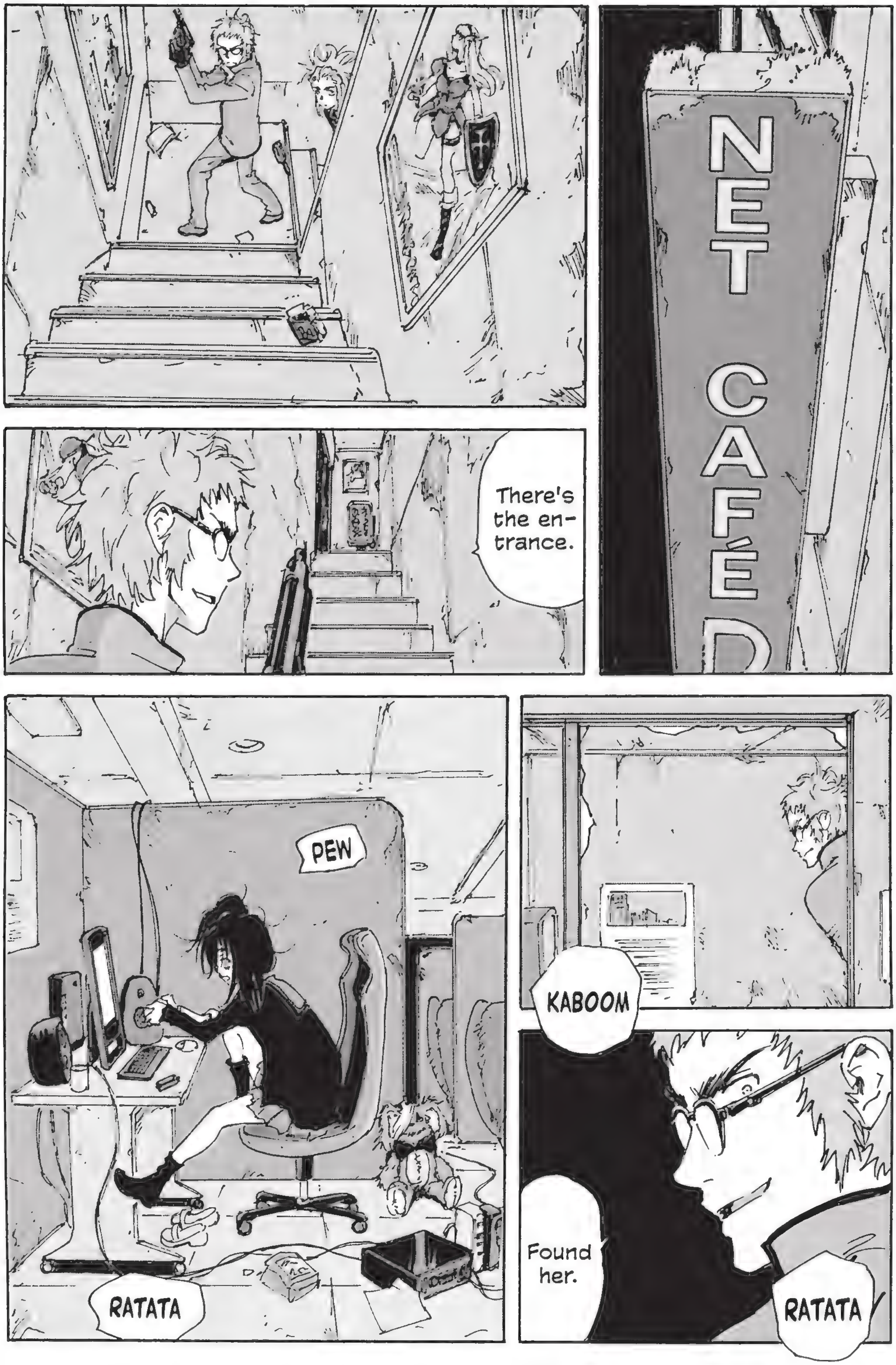

Here we are.
ZWSH
This is Meguro Base?
Huh ...?
Wait...
According to the GPS, it's not on the base.
It's leading us to...
Whoa, whoa... *Here?*
ひざまくら
みみかき
リフレ
インターネット
コミックカフェ
BOX-1
490円
150円
It's a net café, man.

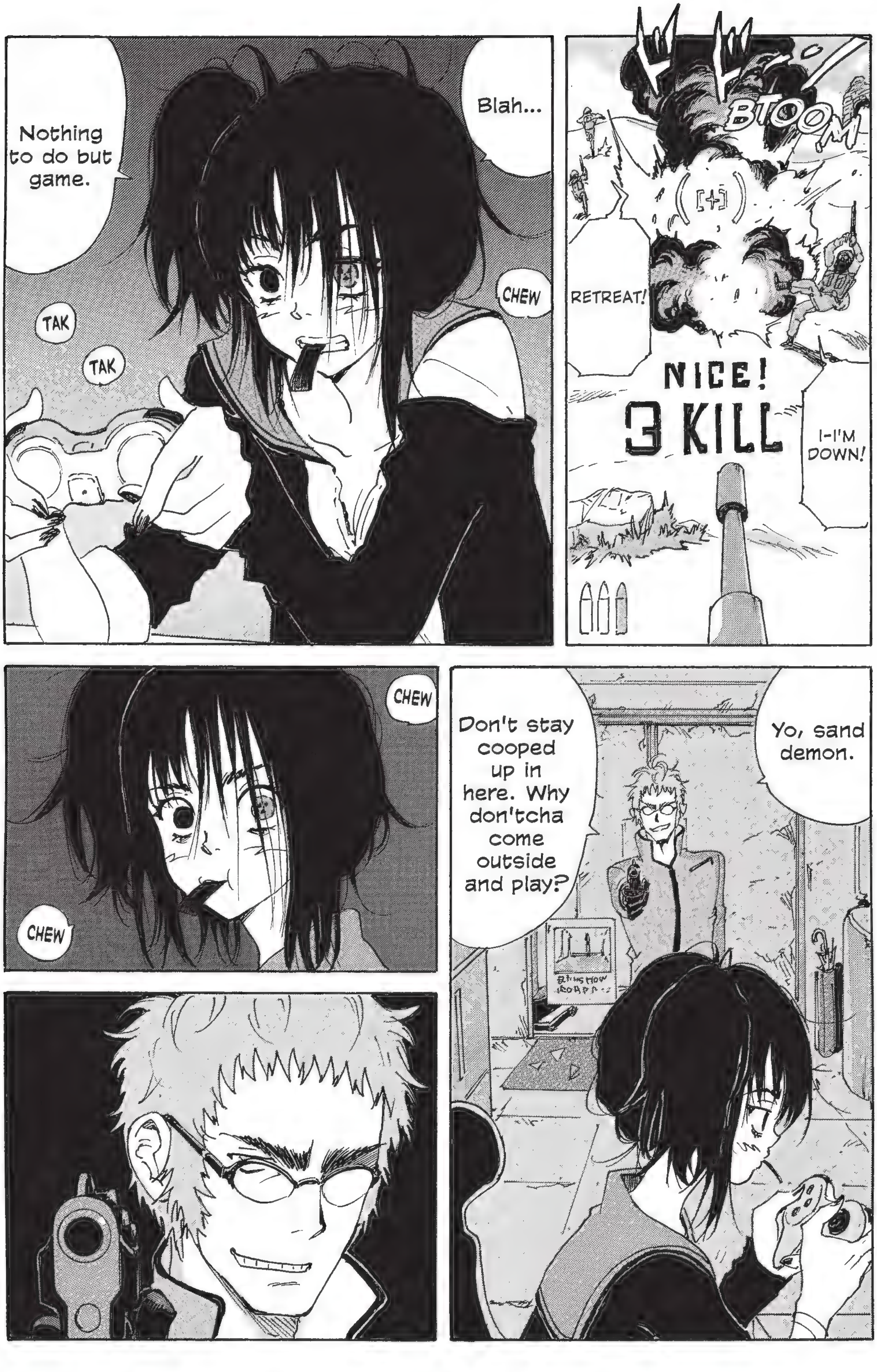

KCHK
Whatever. We're going in!
That gamer freak's computer is ours!
Move it, Ryouga!
CD
買います 本
Shh, bro.

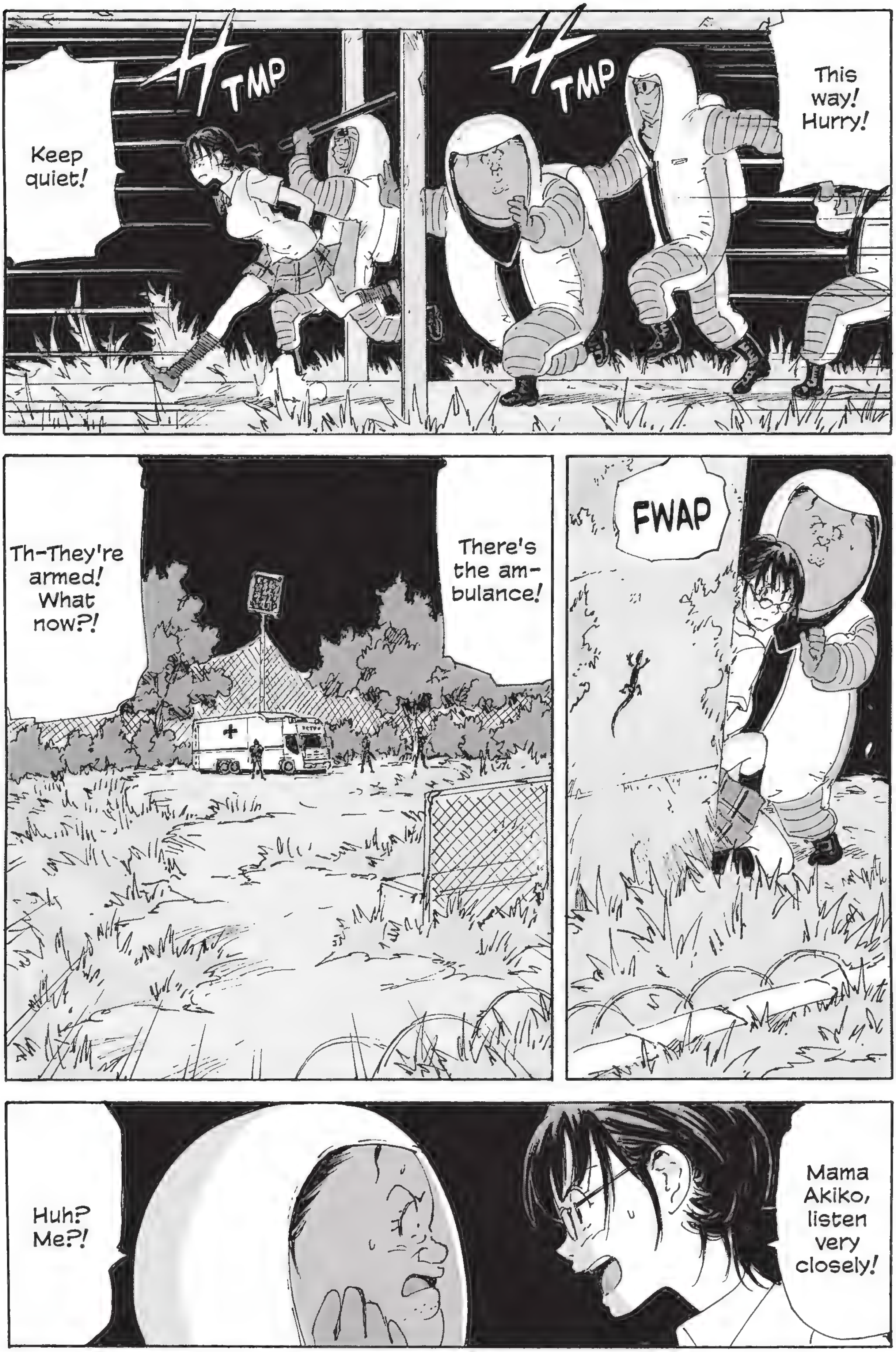

If we wanna make a break for the ambulance ...
We haveta deal with that guard first.
Look for something we could use as a weapon!
...?
KAA
...?
?!
FLAP

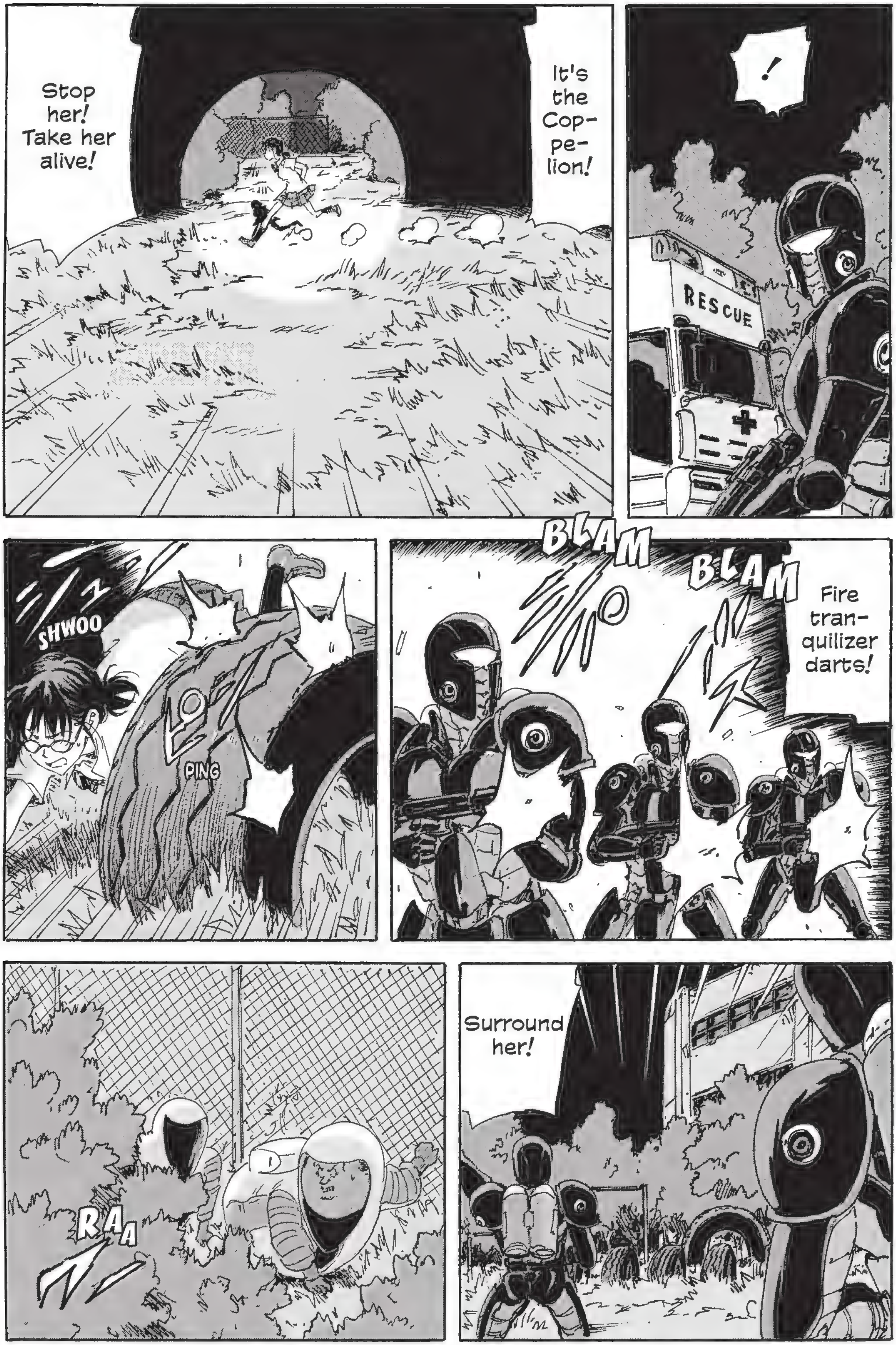

KAA
KAA
What the hell?!
When did all those crows—
Now!
Please, crows ...!
FLAP
FLAP

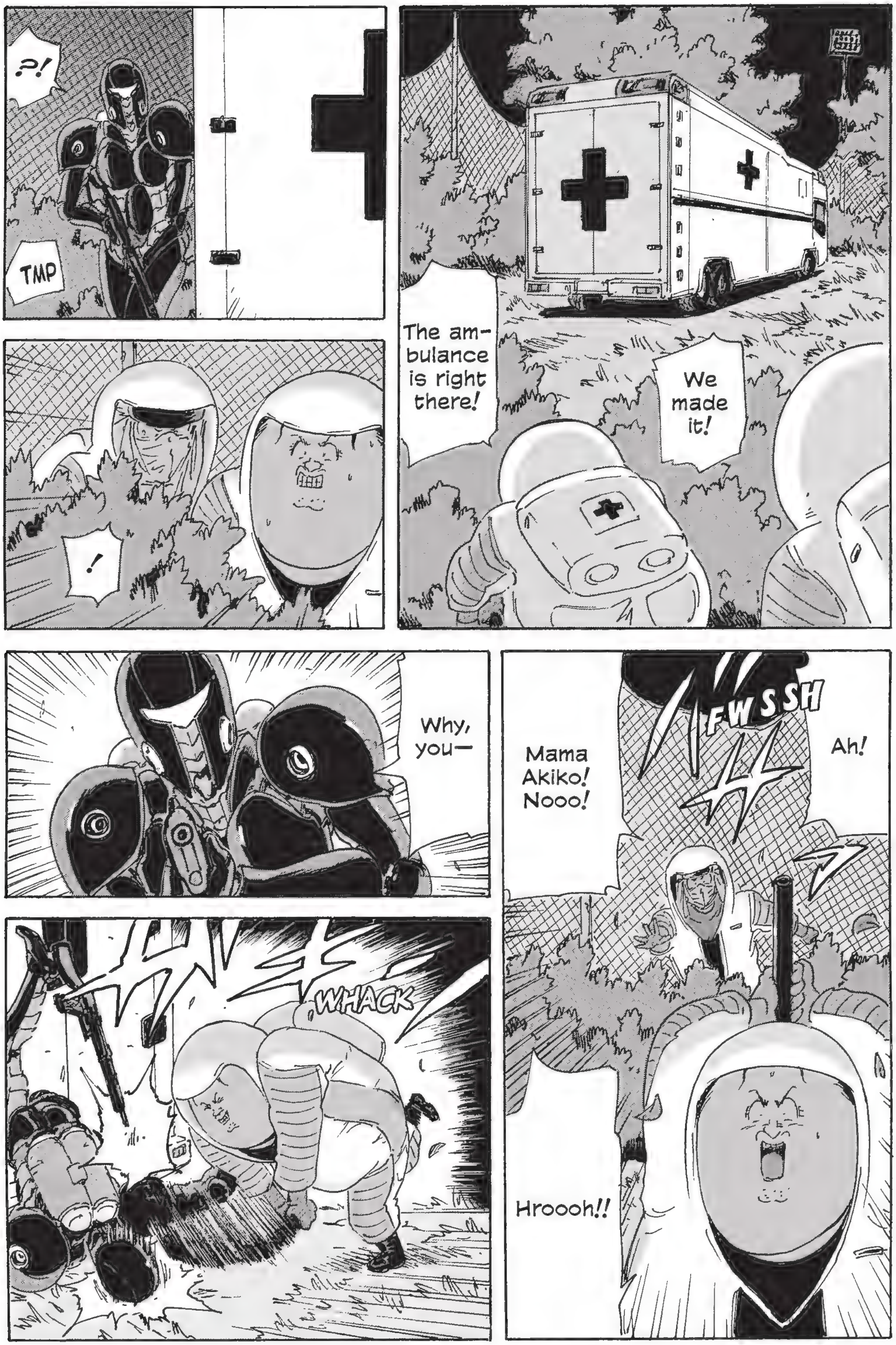

KRISH
G...
Gah! Get off me!
GAA
GAA
GAA
Argh!
GAA
T-Taeko! You did it!
Come on! We're busting outta here!

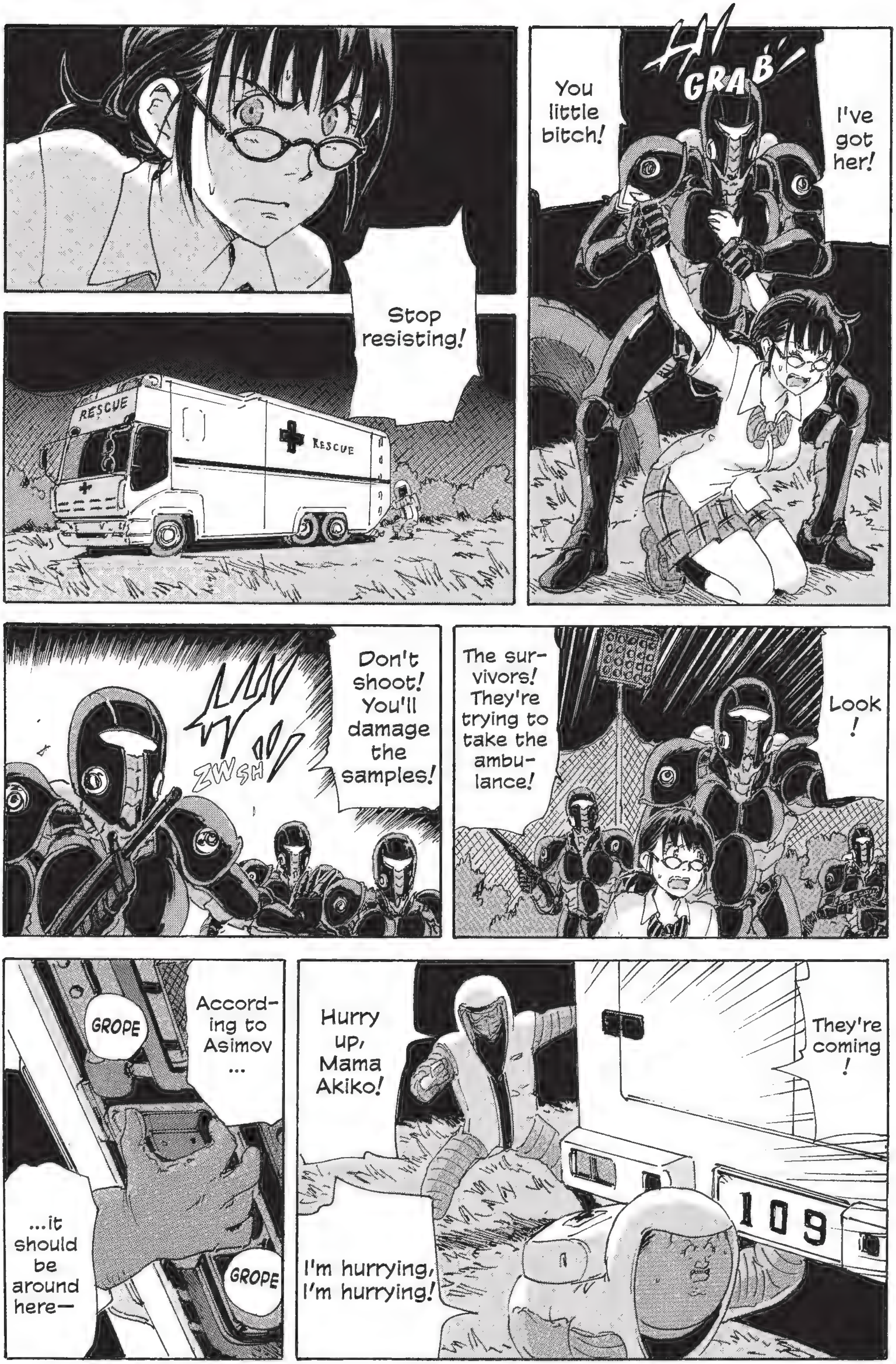

NET CAFÉ D
There's the entrance.
KABOOM
Found her.
RATATA
PEW
RATATA

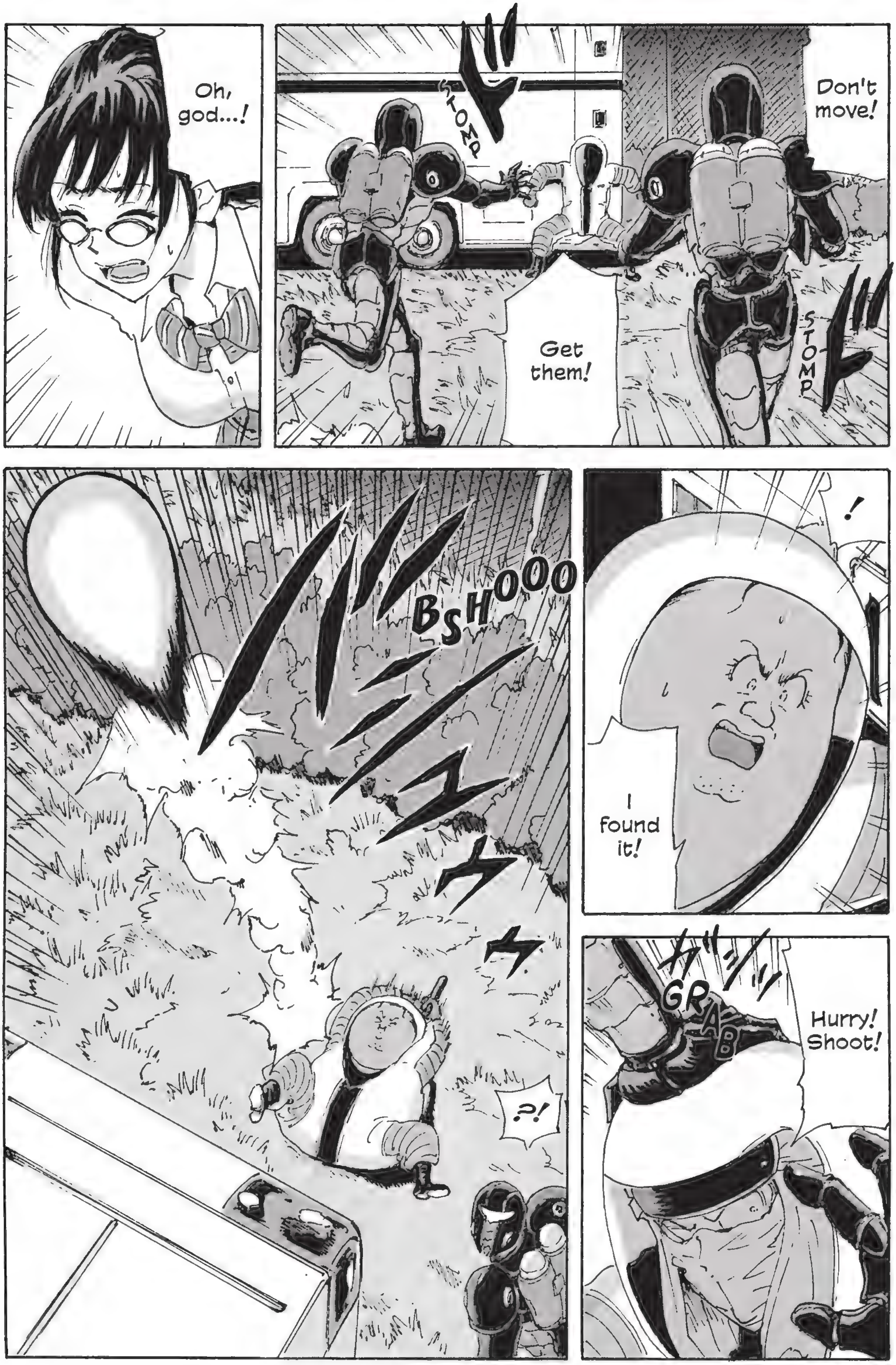

BTOOM
[+]
RETREAT!
NICE!
3 KILL
I-I'M DOWN!
Blah...
CHEW
Nothing to do but game.
TAK
TAK
Yo, sand demon.
Don't stay cooped up in here. Why don'tcha come outside and play?
CHEW
CHEW

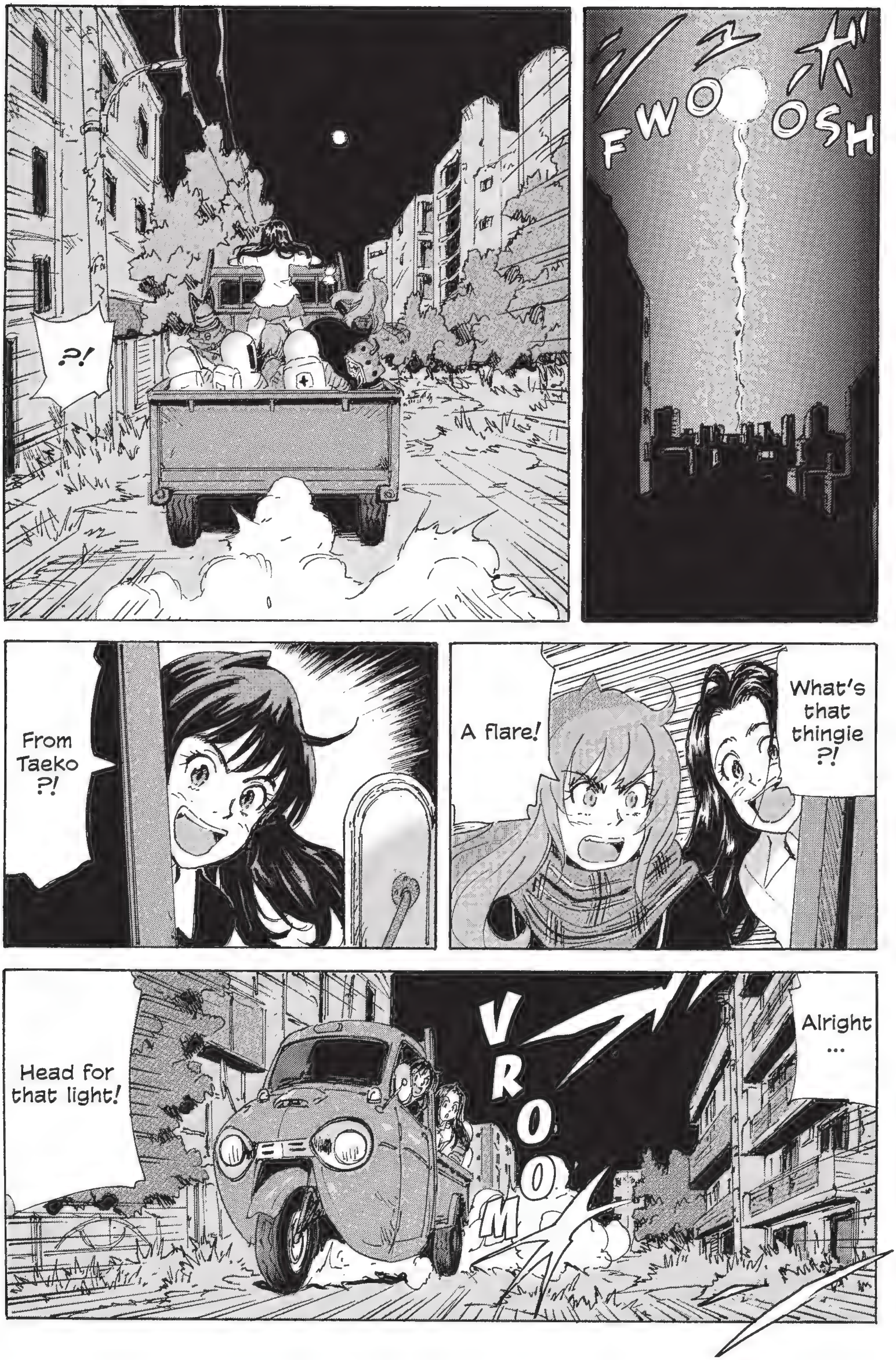

This way! Hurry!
TMP
TMP
Keep quiet!
FWAP
There's the ambulance!
Th-They're armed! What now?!
Mama Akiko, listen very closely!
Huh? Me?!

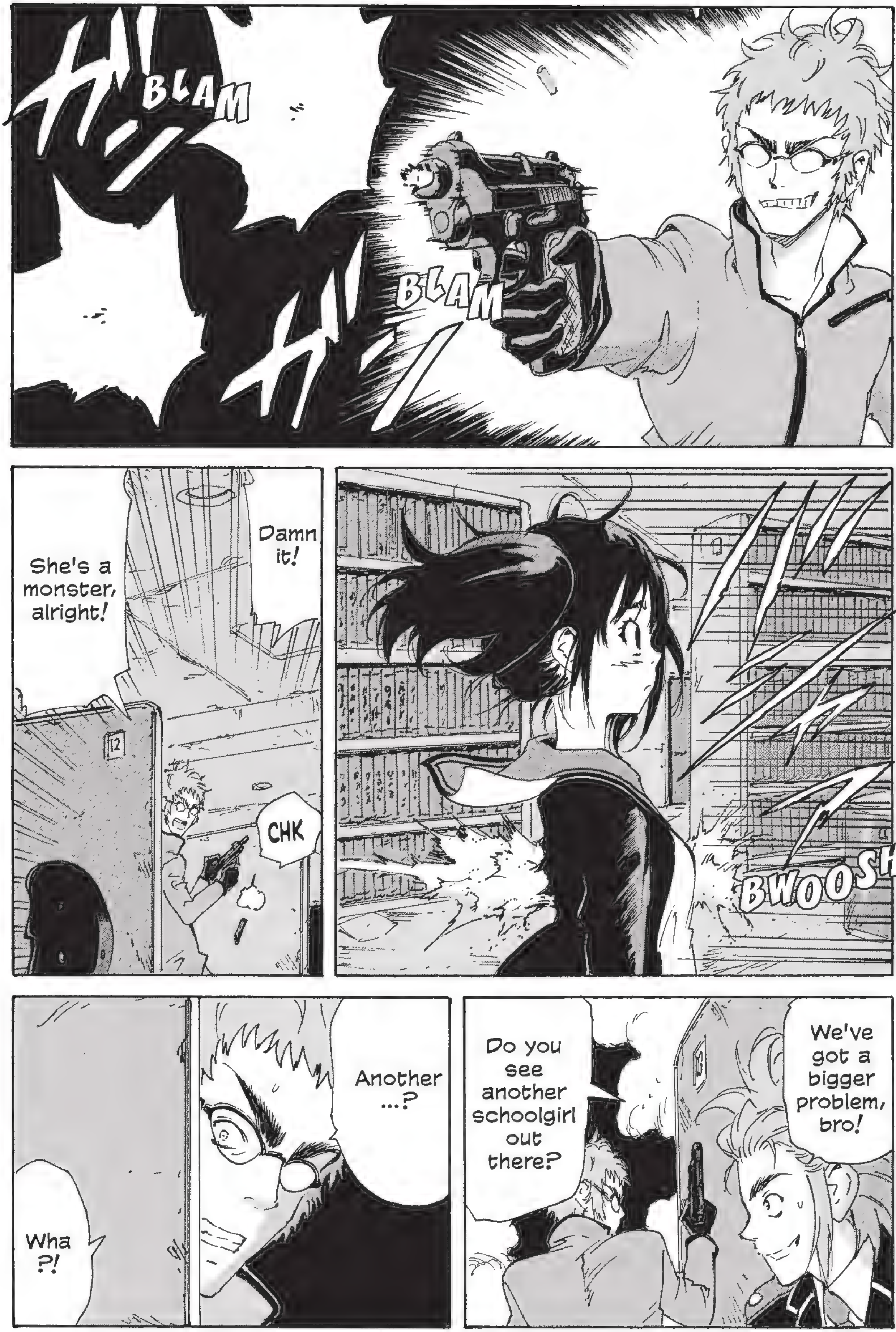

!
It's the Coppelion!
Stop her! Take her alive!
Fire tranquilizer darts!
BLAM
BLAM
SHWOO
PING
Surround her!
RAA

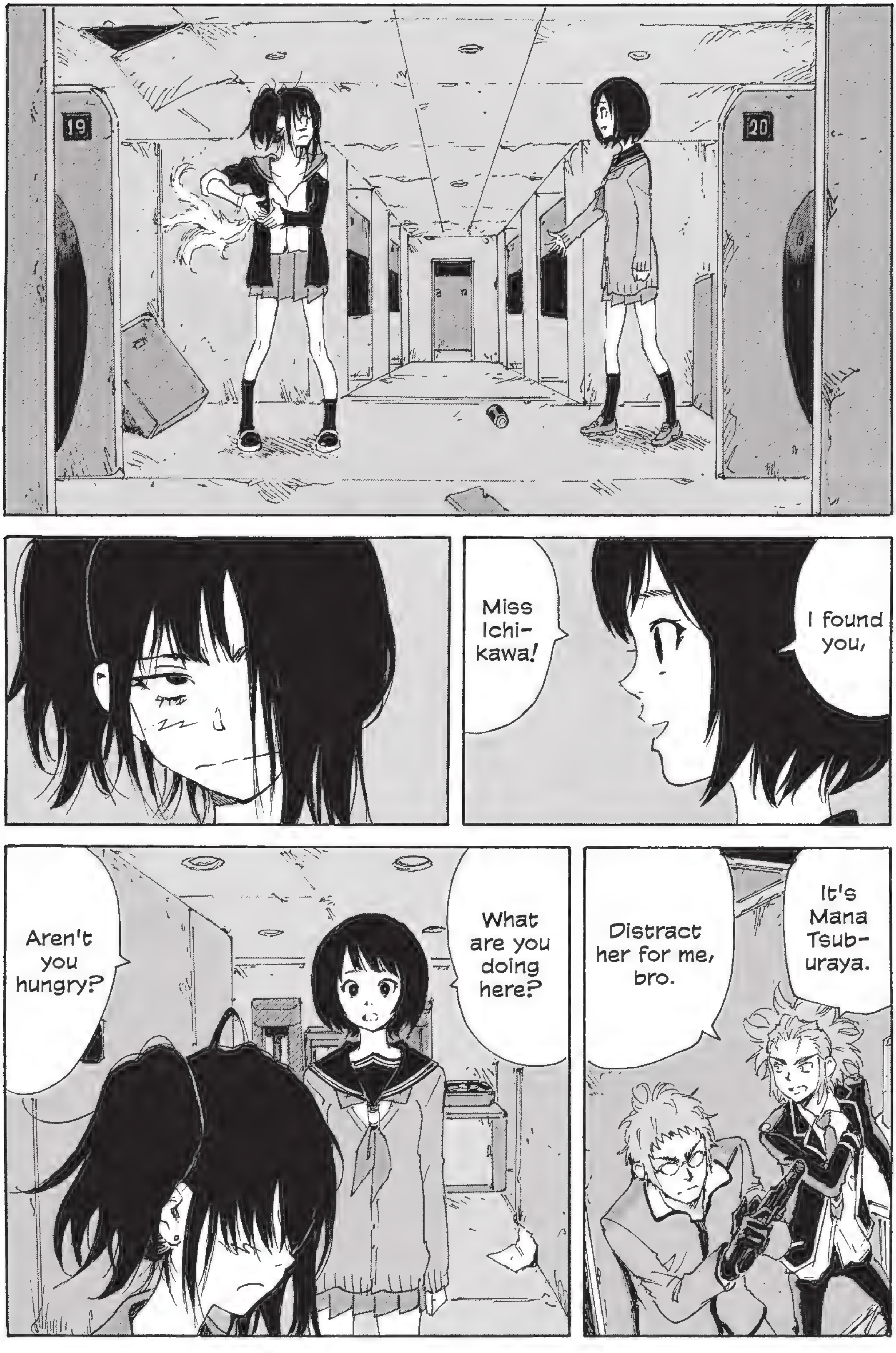

We made it!
The ambulance is right there!
?!
TMP
!
Ah!
FWSSH
Mama Akiko! Nooo!
Hroooh!!
Why, you—
WHACK

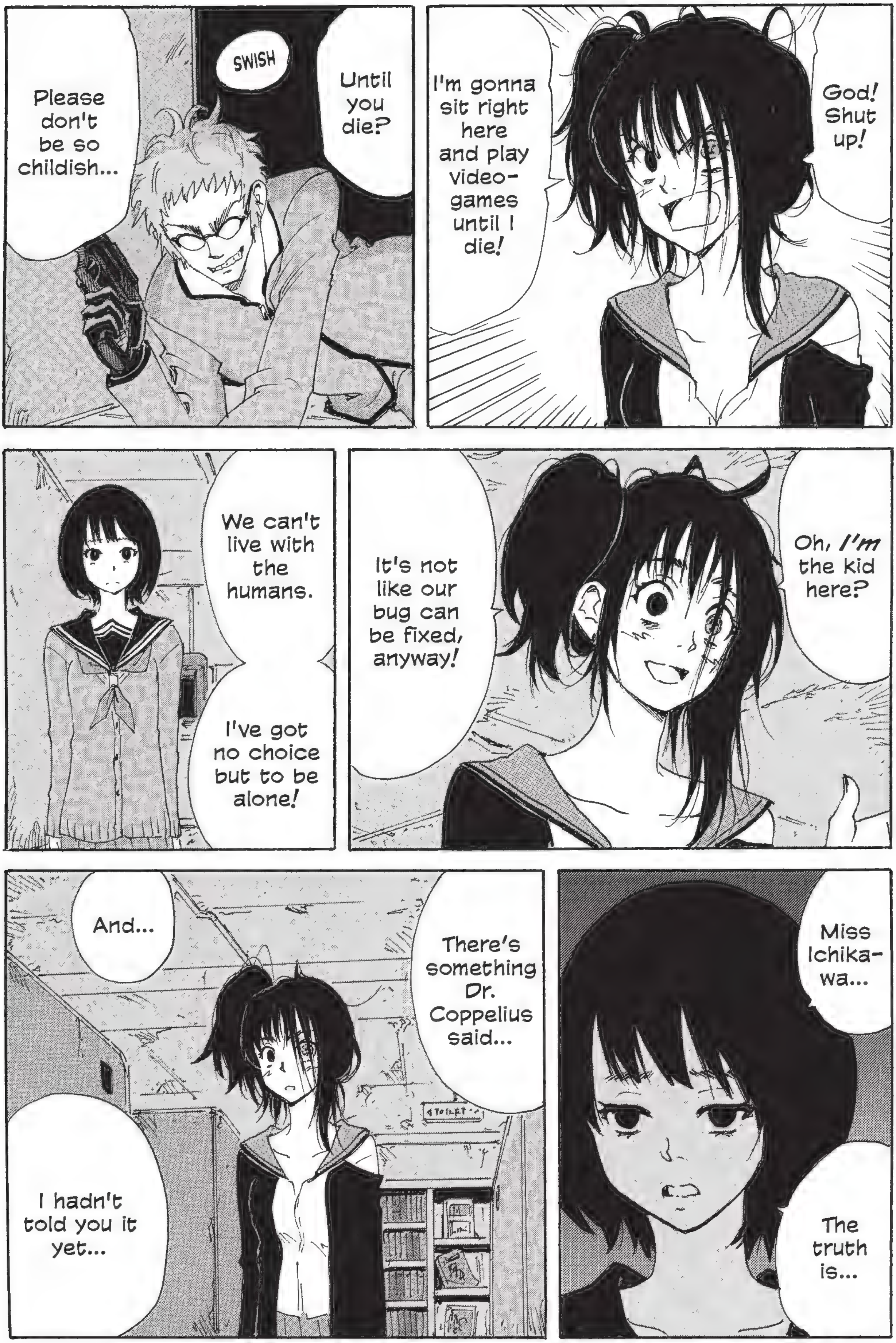

GRAB
I've got her!
You little bitch!
Stop resisting!
RESCUE
RESCUE
Look!
The survivors! They're trying to take the ambulance!
Don't shoot! You'll damage the samples!
ZWSH
They're coming!
Hurry up, Mama Akiko!
I'm hurrying, I'm hurrying!
109
According to Asimov...
GROPE
...it should be around here—
GROPE

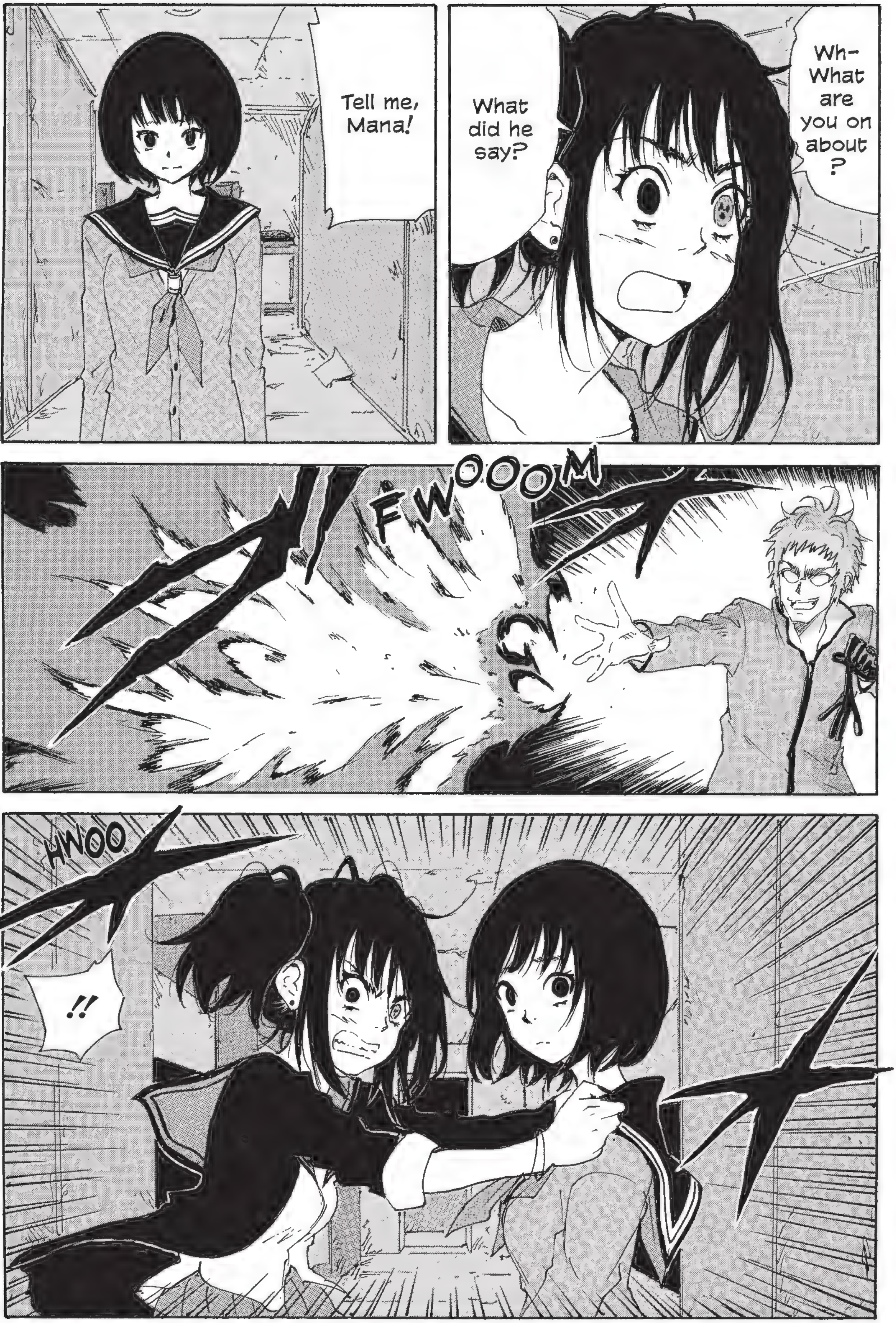

Don't move!
STOMP
Get them!
STOMP
Oh, god...!
!
I found it!
GRAB
Hurry! Shoot!
?!
BSHOOO

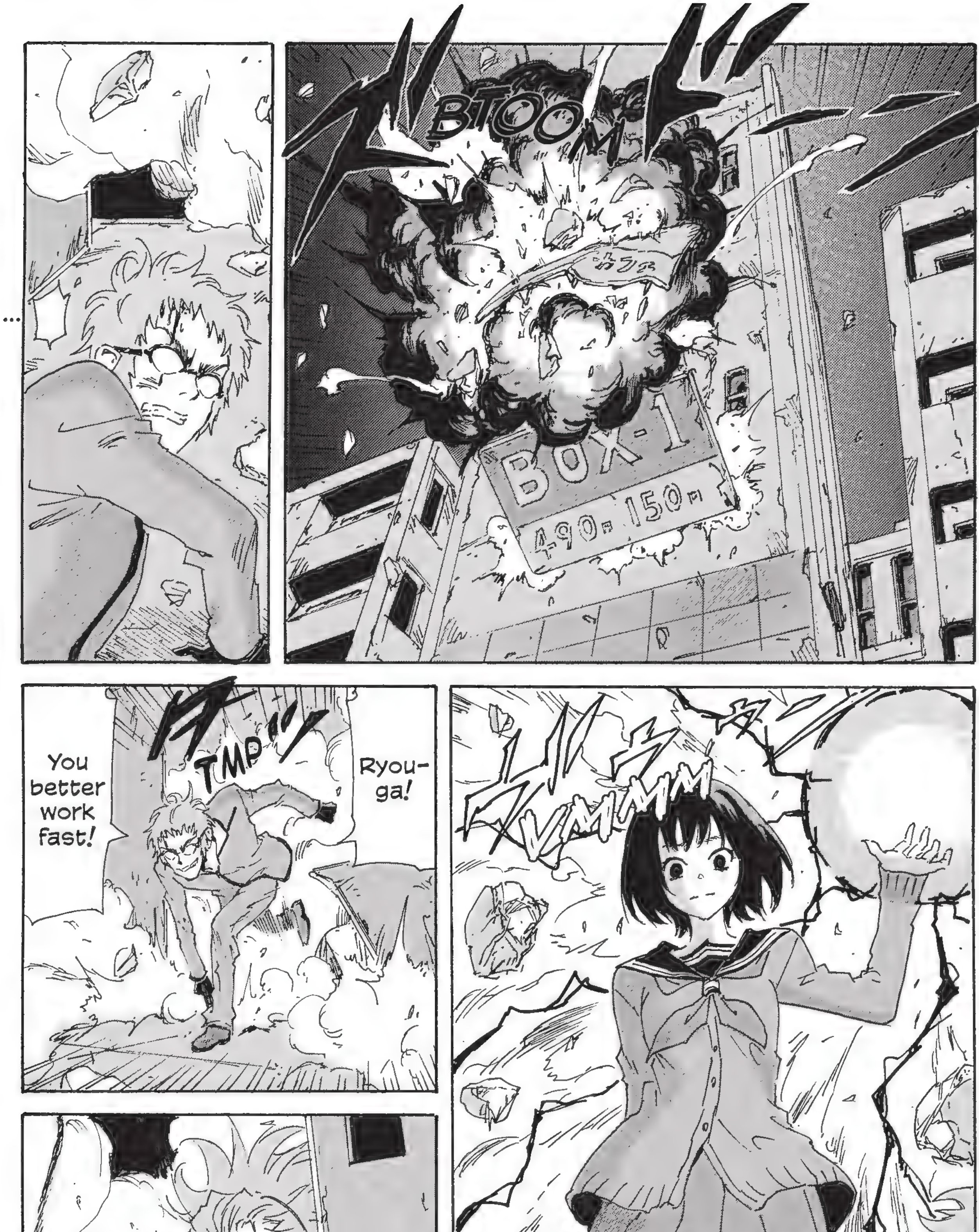

シュバ
FWOOSH
?!
What's that thingie ?!
A flare!
From Taeko ?!
Alright ...
VROOOM
Head for that light!

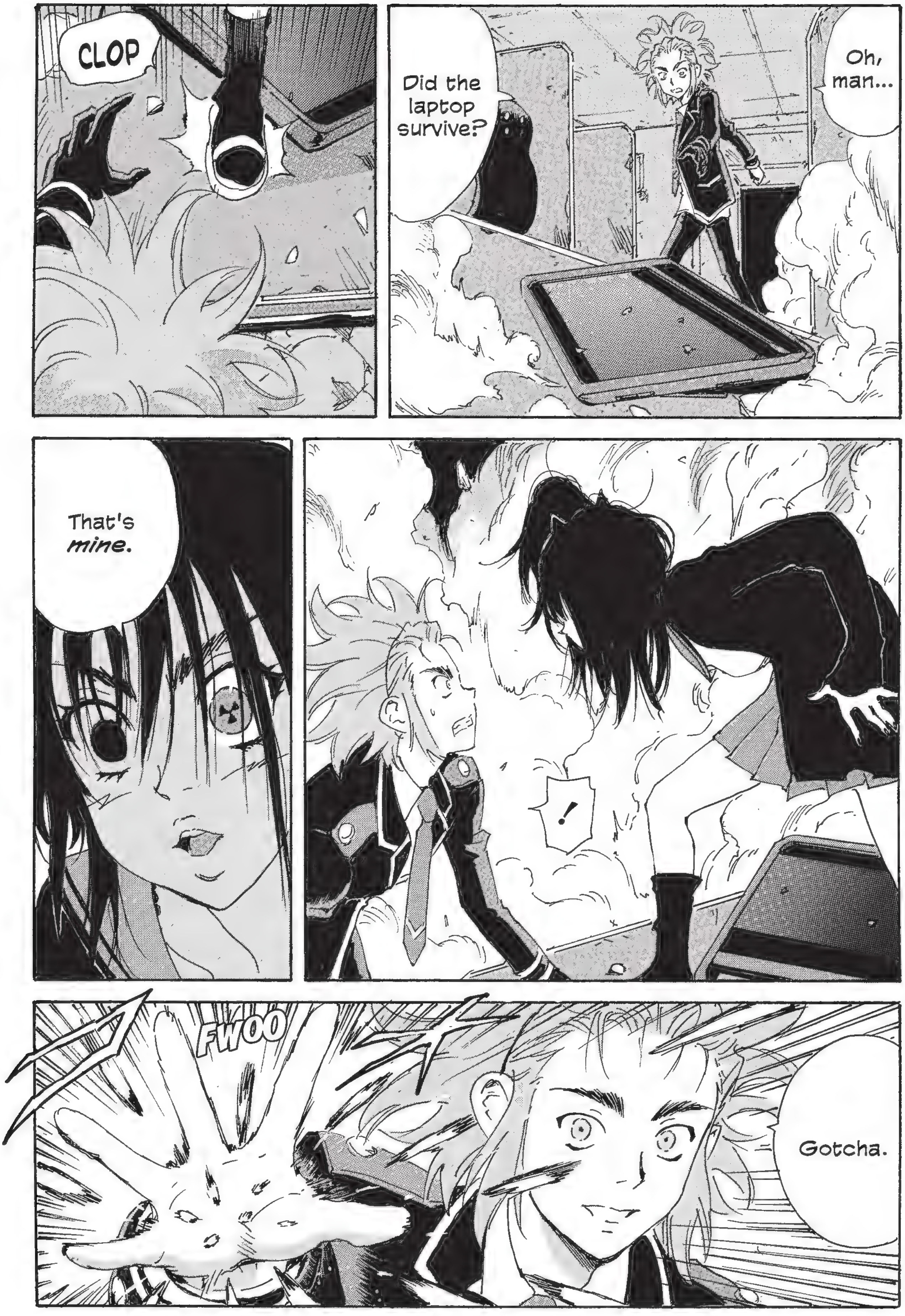

BLAM
BLAM
BWOOSH
Damn it!
She's a monster, alright!
CHK
We've got a bigger problem, bro!
Do you see another schoolgirl out there?
Another ...?
Wha ?!

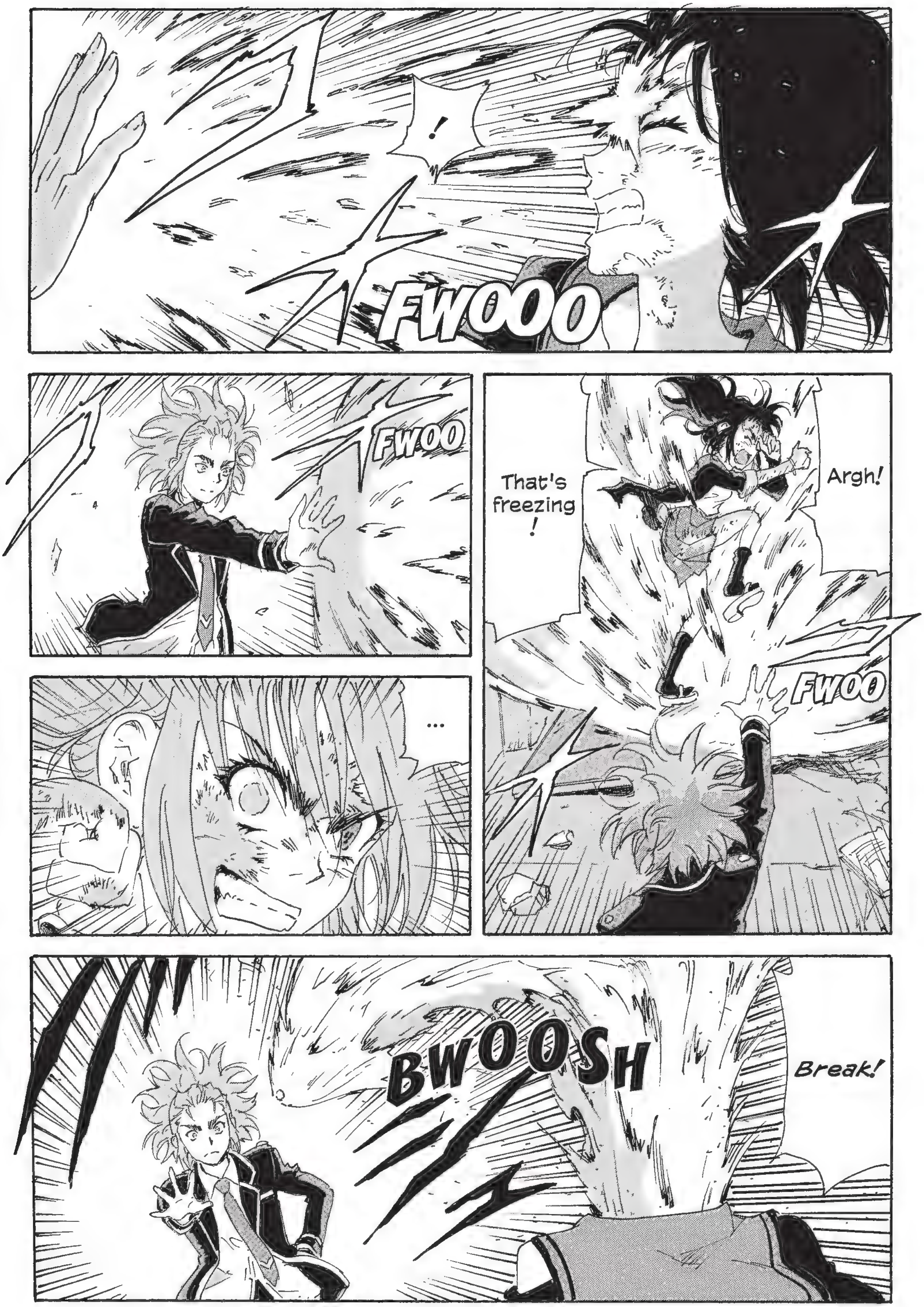

19
20
I found you,
Miss Ichikawa!
It's Mana Tsuburaya.
Distract her for me, bro.
What are you doing here?
Aren't you hungry?

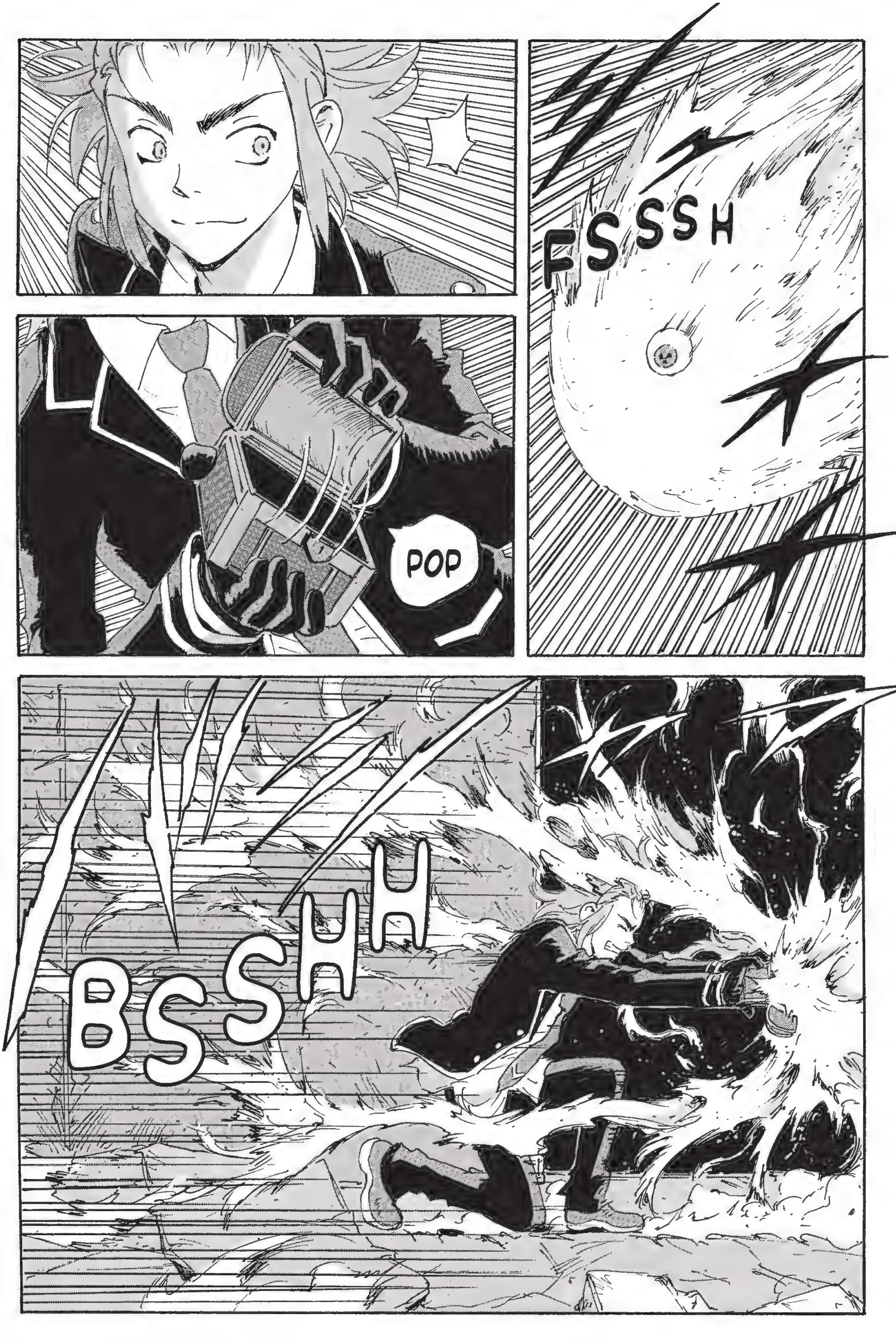

God! Shut up!
I'm gonna sit right here and play video-games until I die!
Until you die?
SWISH
Please don't be so childish...
Oh, *I'm* the kid here?
It's not like our bug can be fixed, anyway!
We can't live with the humans.
I've got no choice but to be alone!
Miss Ichika-wa...
The truth is...
And...
There's something Dr. Coppelius said...
I hadn't told you it yet...
TOILET

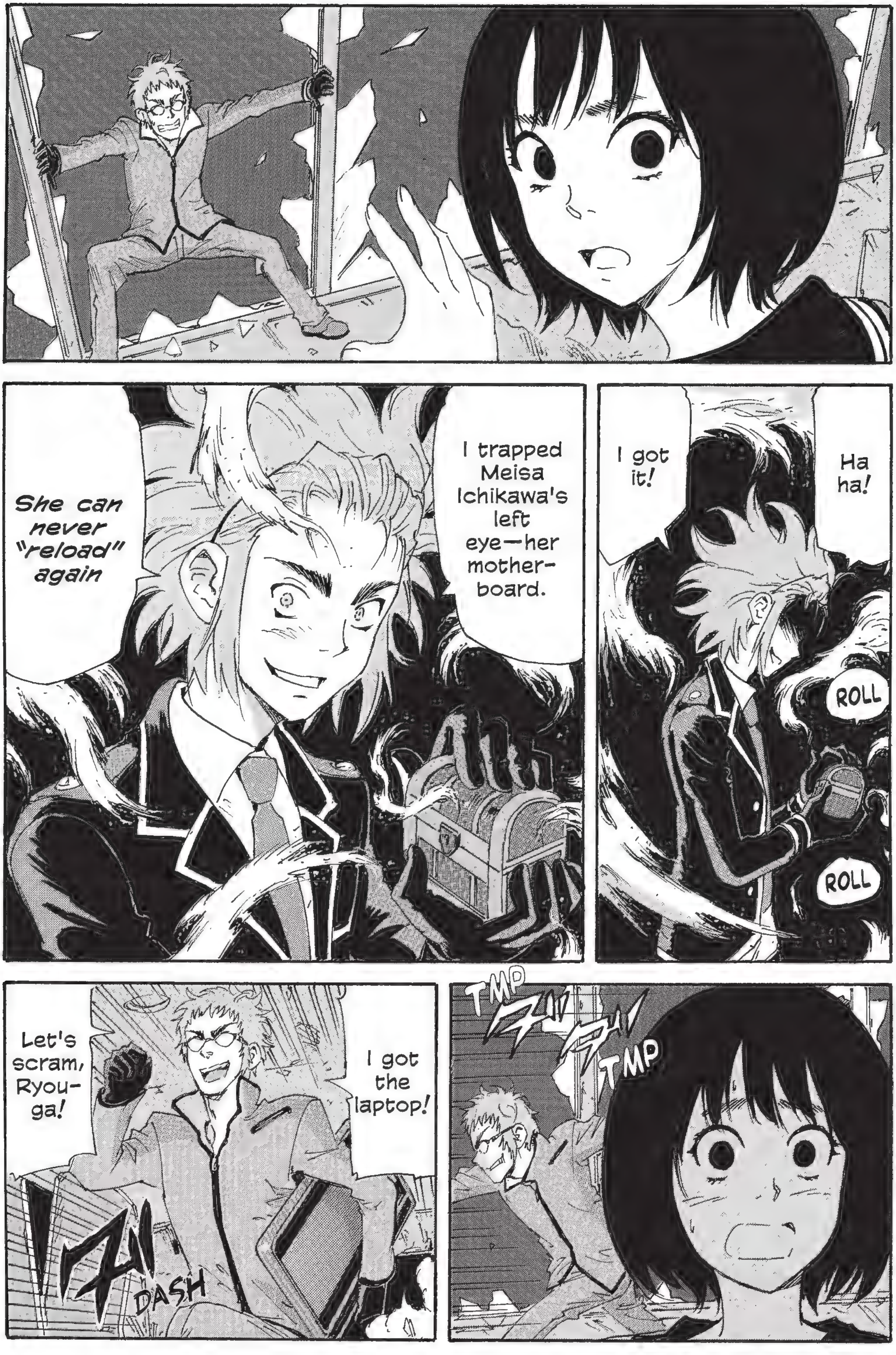

Wh- What are you on about?
What did he say?
Tell me, Mana!
FWOOOM
HWOO
!!

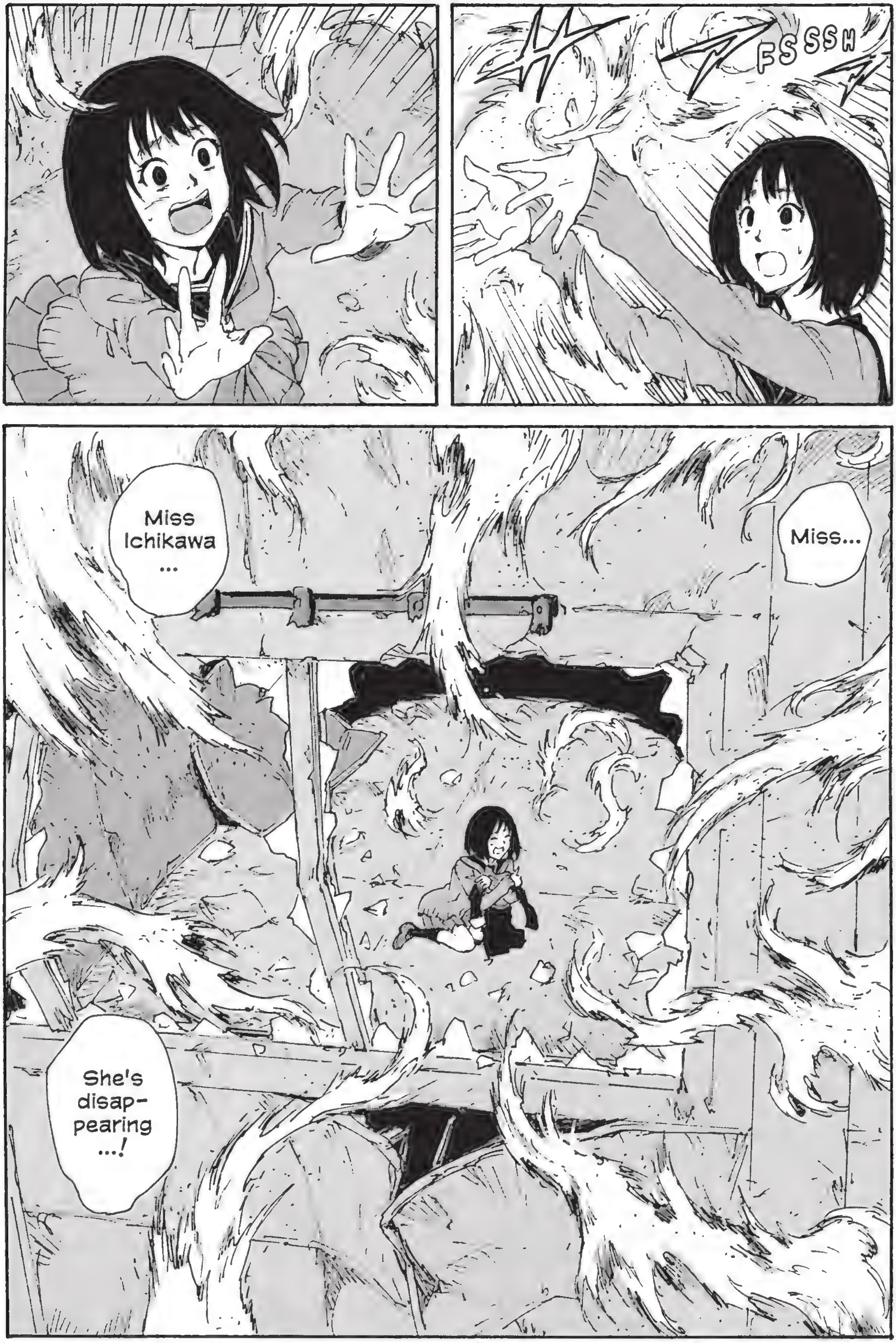

BTOOM
BOX-1
490円 150円
...
VMMMM
Ryou-ga!
TMP
You better work fast!


CLOP
Oh, man...
Did the laptop survive?
That's *mine*.
!
FWOO
Gotcha.

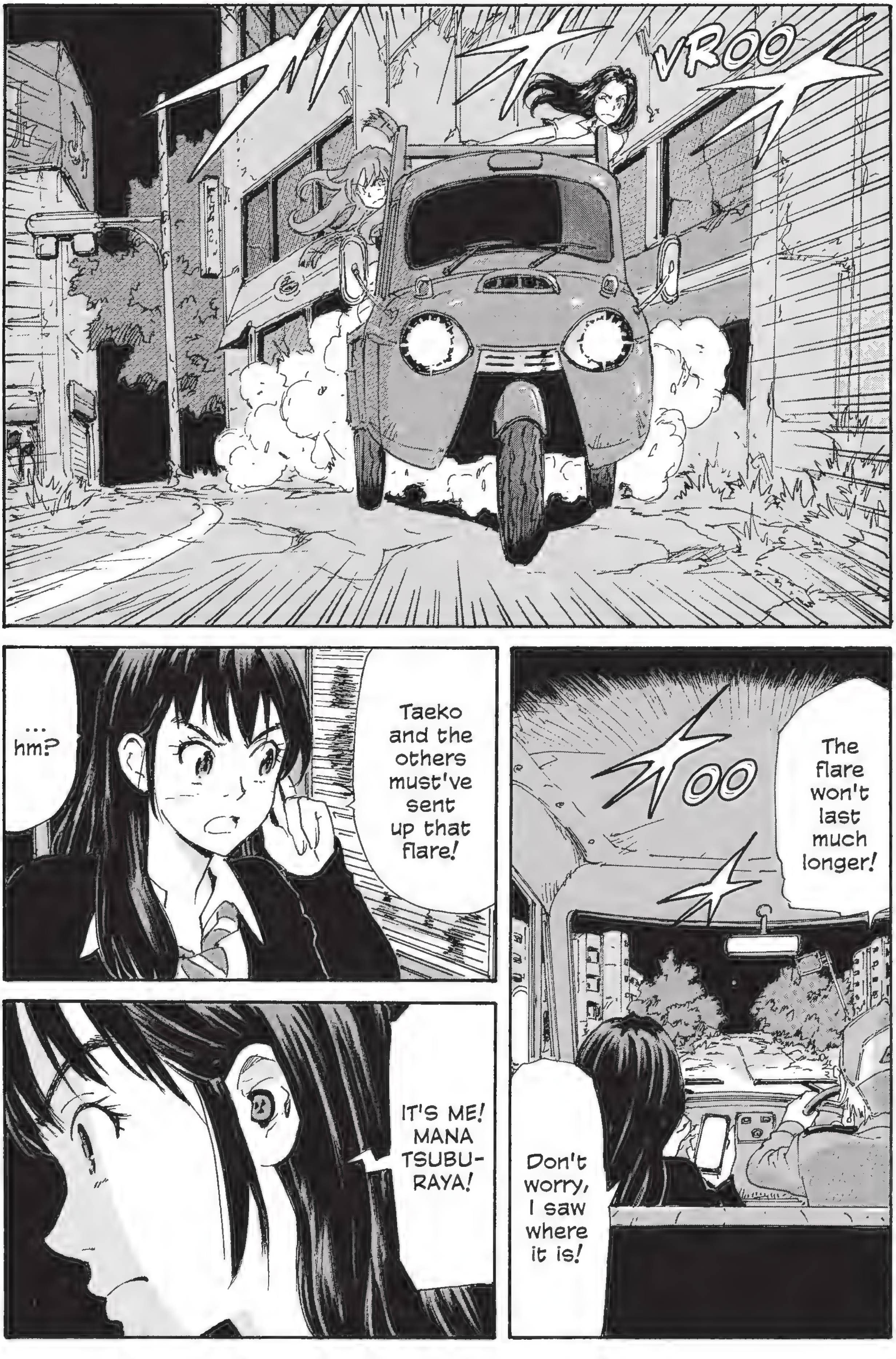

!
FWOOO
FWOO
That's freezing!
Argh!
FWOO
...
BWOOSH
Break!

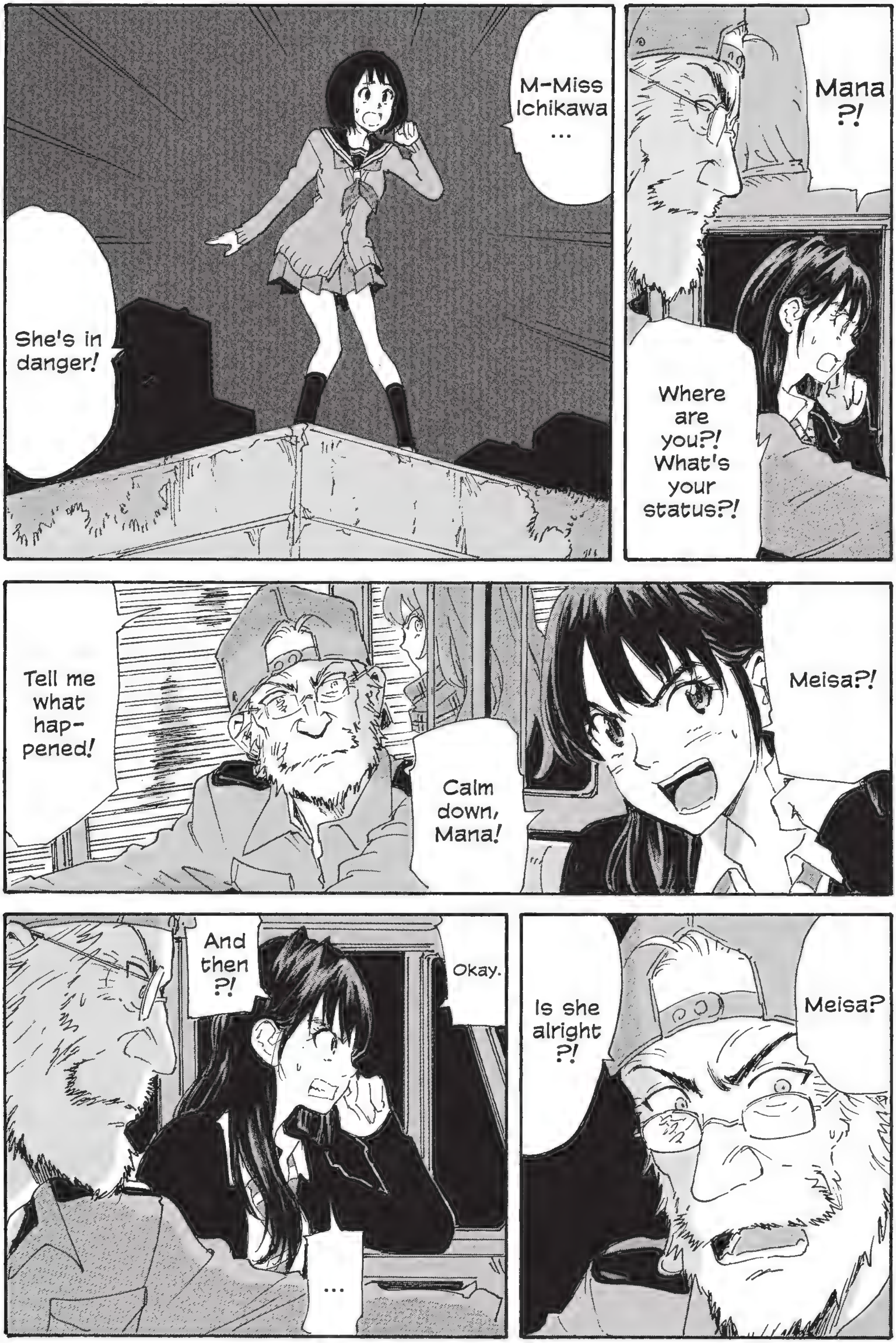

FSSSH
POP
BSSHH

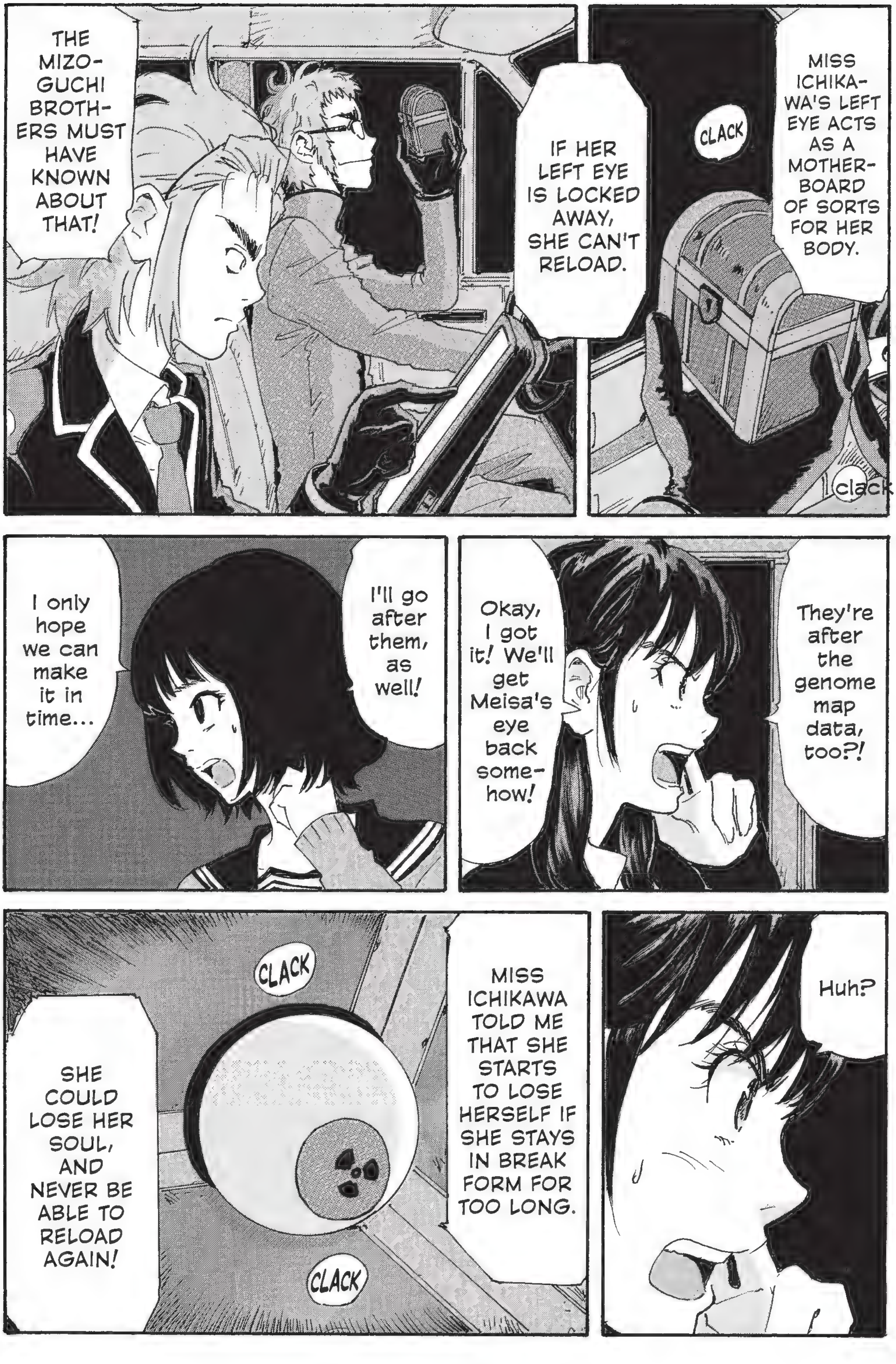

Ha ha!
I got it!
ROLL
ROLL
I trapped Meisa Ichikawa's left eye—her motherboard.
She can never "reload" again
TMP
TMP
I got the laptop!
Let's scram, Ryouga!
DASH

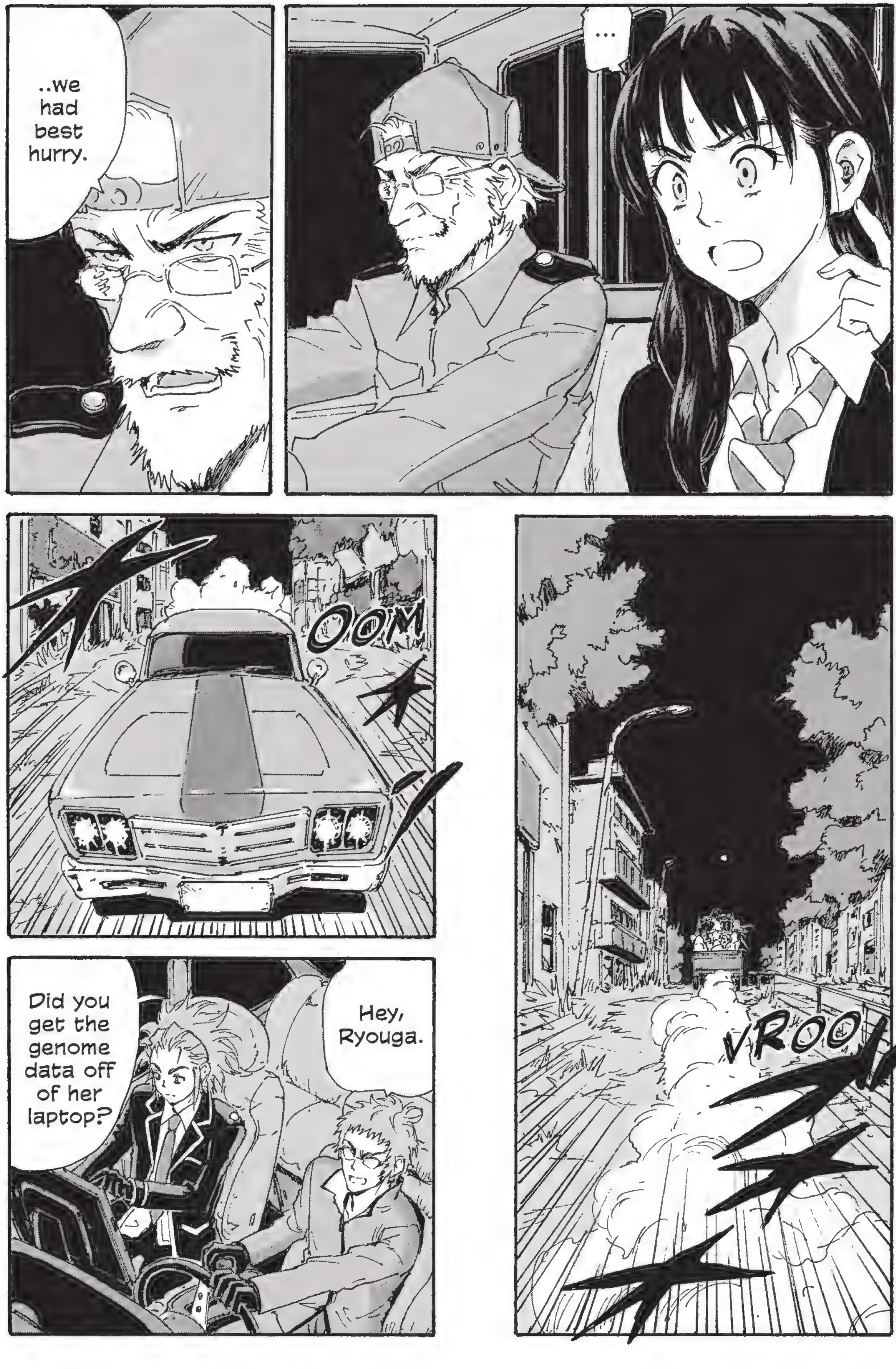

FSSSH
Miss...
Miss Ichikawa ...
She's disappearing ...!

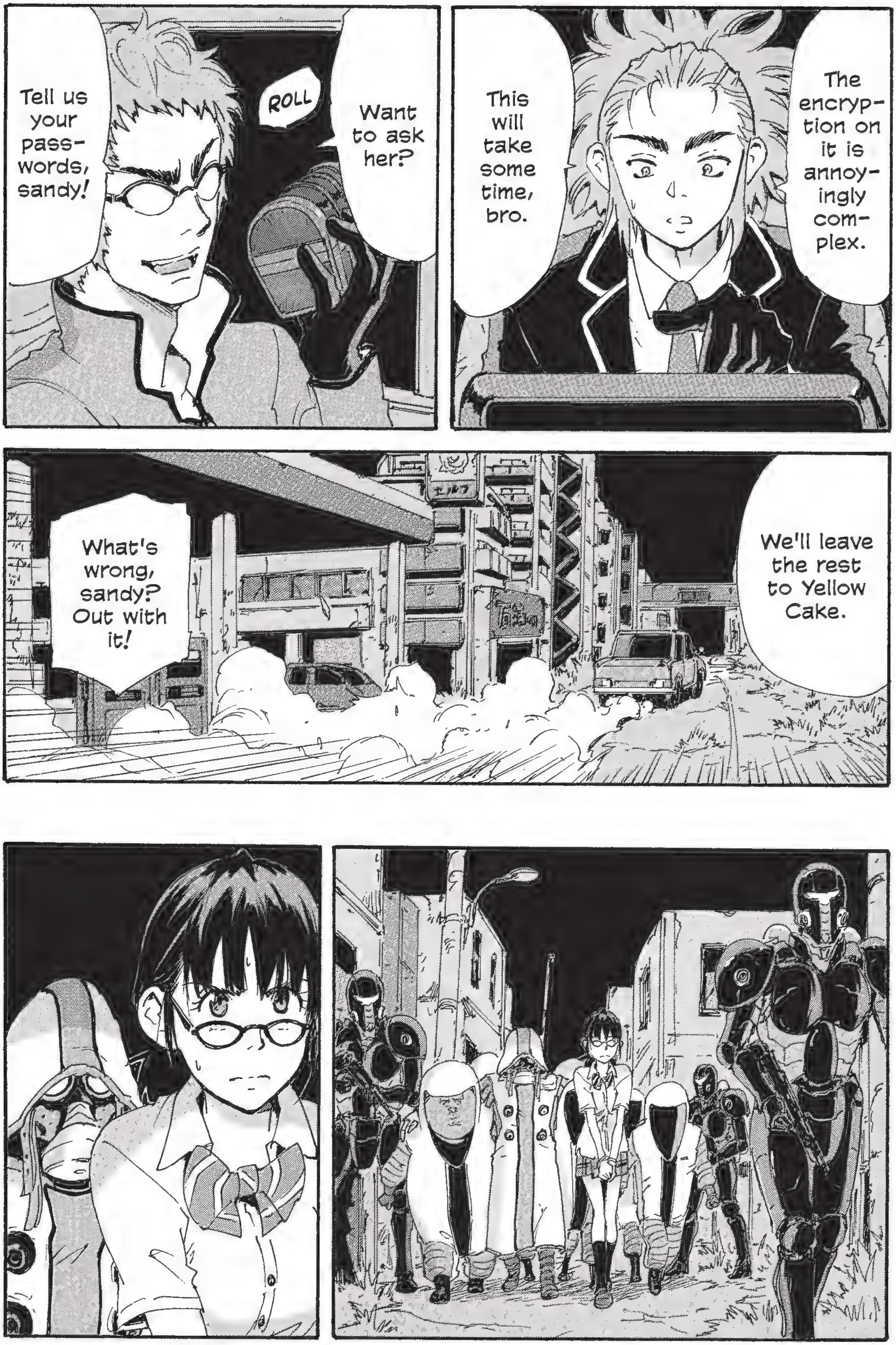
Act.27【Took You Long Enough, VP!】

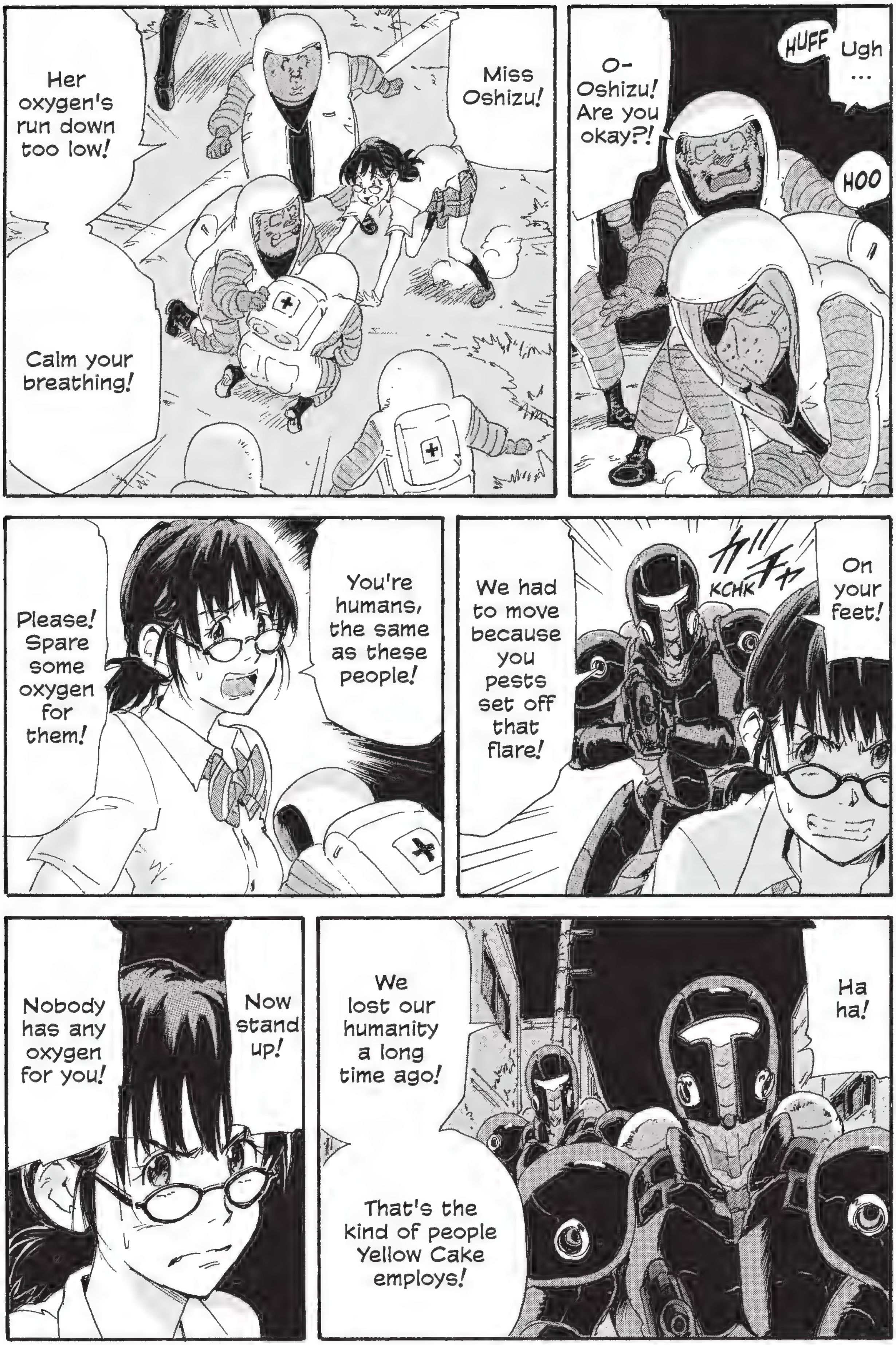

VROO
OO
The flare won't last much longer!
Don't worry, I saw where it is!
Taeko and the others must've sent up that flare!
... hm?
IT'S ME! MANA TSUBURAYA!

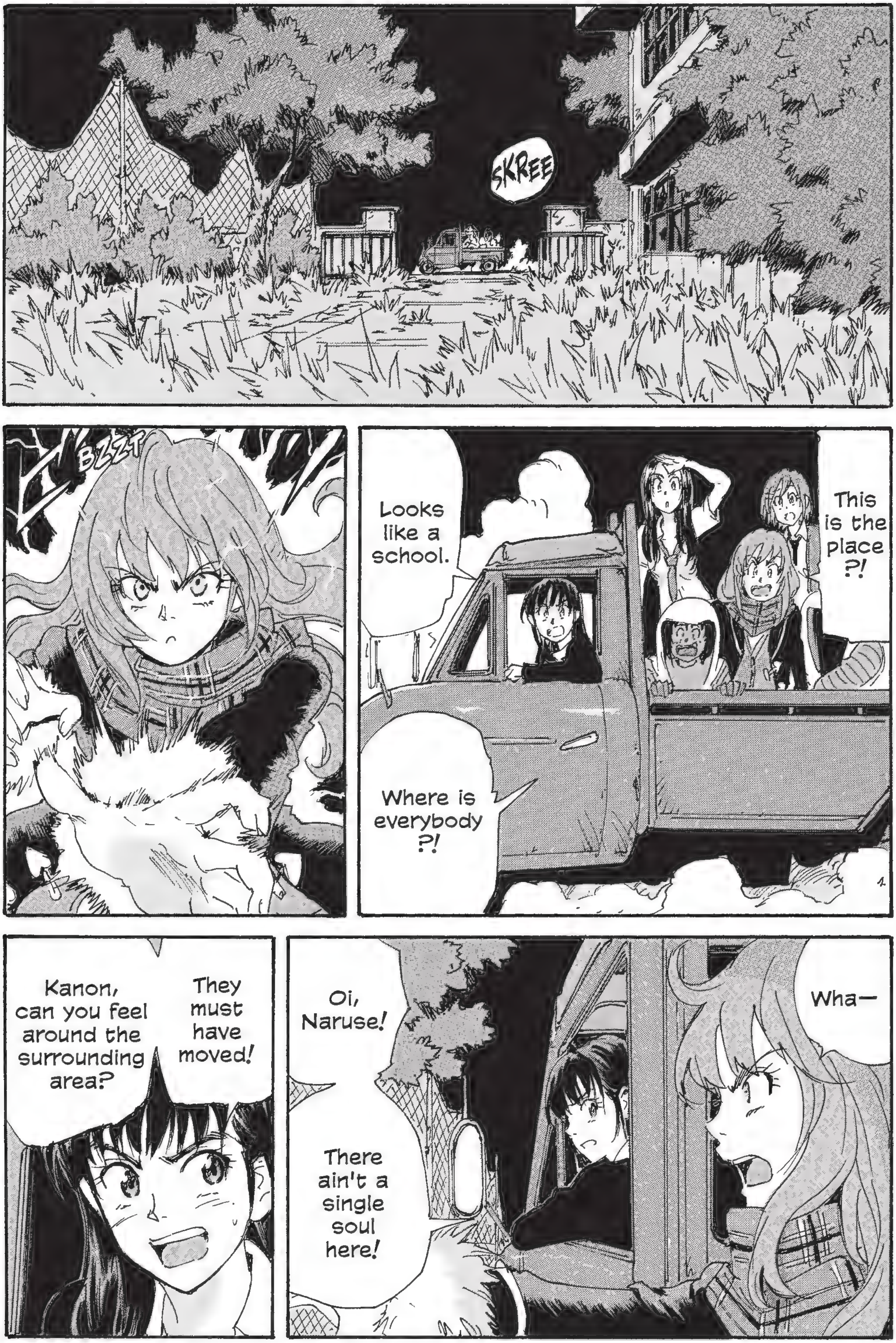

Mana?!
Where are you?! What's your status?!
M-Miss Ichikawa...
She's in danger!
Meisa?!
Calm down, Mana!
Tell me what happened!
Meisa?
Is she alright?!
Okay.
And then?!
...

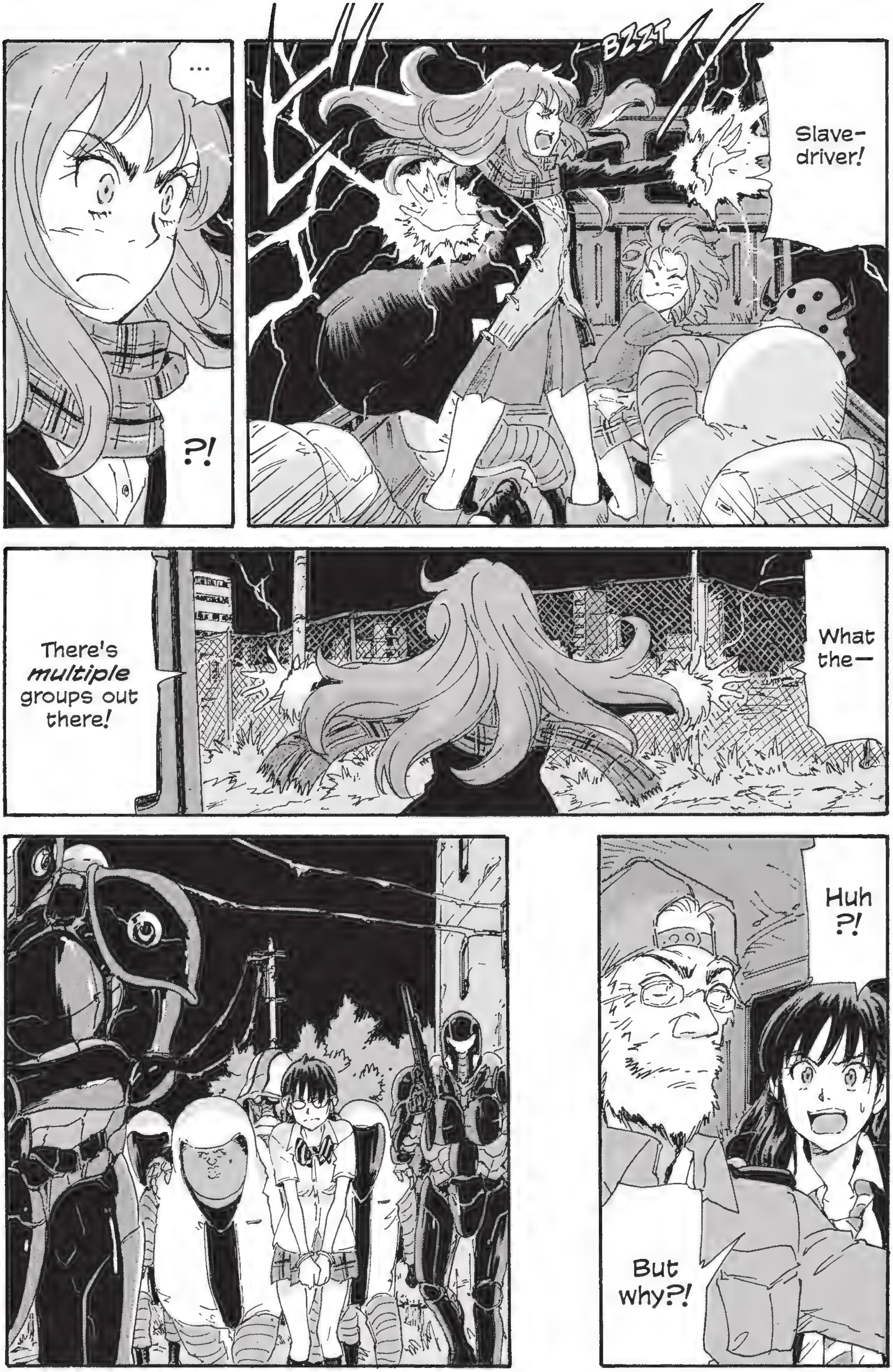

MISS ICHIKAWA'S LEFT EYE ACTS AS A MOTHERBOARD OF SORTS FOR HER BODY.
CLACK
clack
IF HER LEFT EYE IS LOCKED AWAY, SHE CAN'T RELOAD.
THE MIZOGUCHI BROTHERS MUST HAVE KNOWN ABOUT THAT!
They're after the genome map data, too?!
Okay, I got it! We'll get Meisa's eye back somehow!
I'll go after them, as well!
I only hope we can make it in time...
Huh?
MISS ICHIKAWA TOLD ME THAT SHE STARTS TO LOSE HERSELF IF SHE STAYS IN BREAK FORM FOR TOO LONG.
CLACK
SHE COULD LOSE HER SOUL, AND NEVER BE ABLE TO RELOAD AGAIN!
CLACK

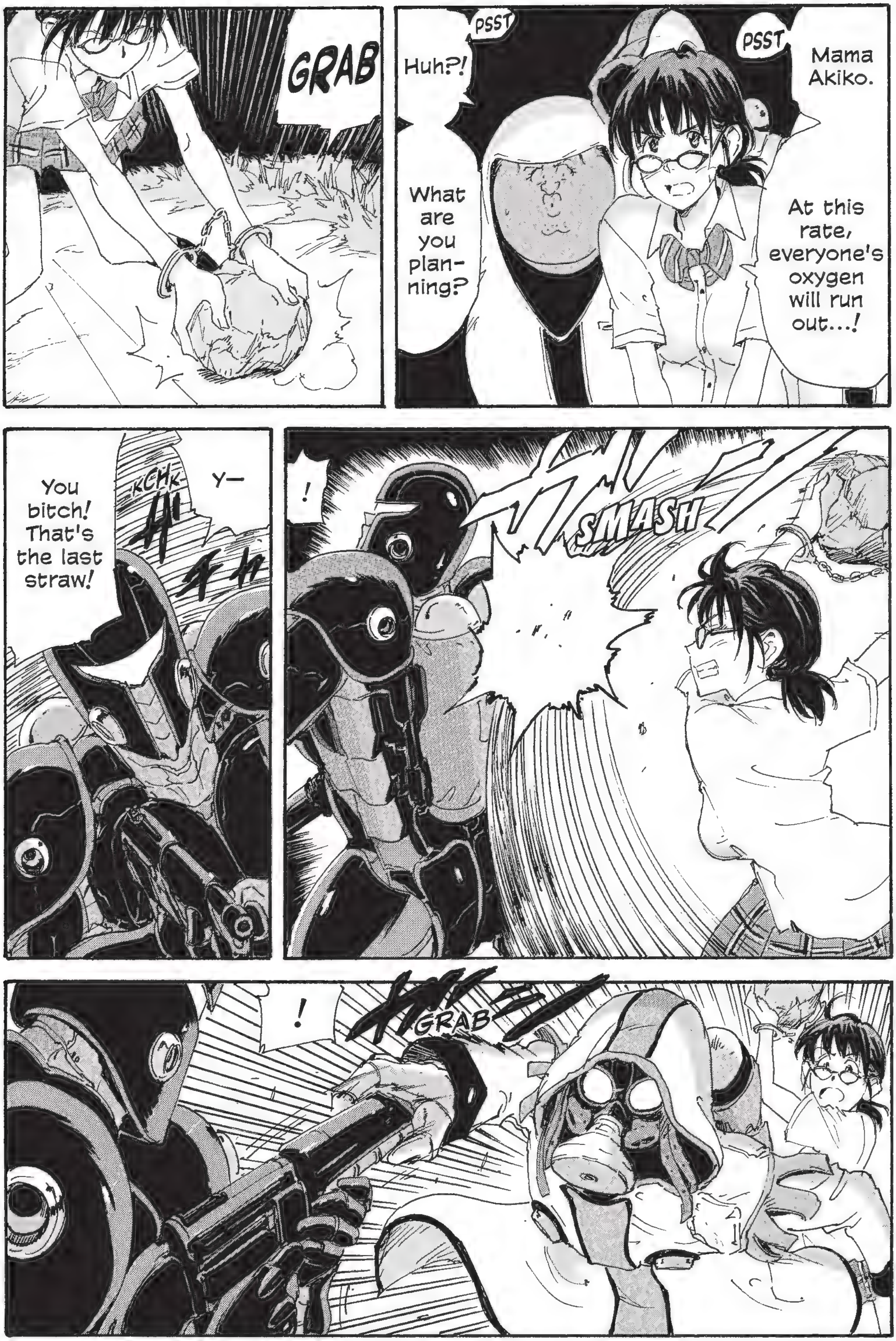

...
..we had best hurry.
VROO
OOM
Hey, Ryouga.
Did you get the genome data off of her laptop?

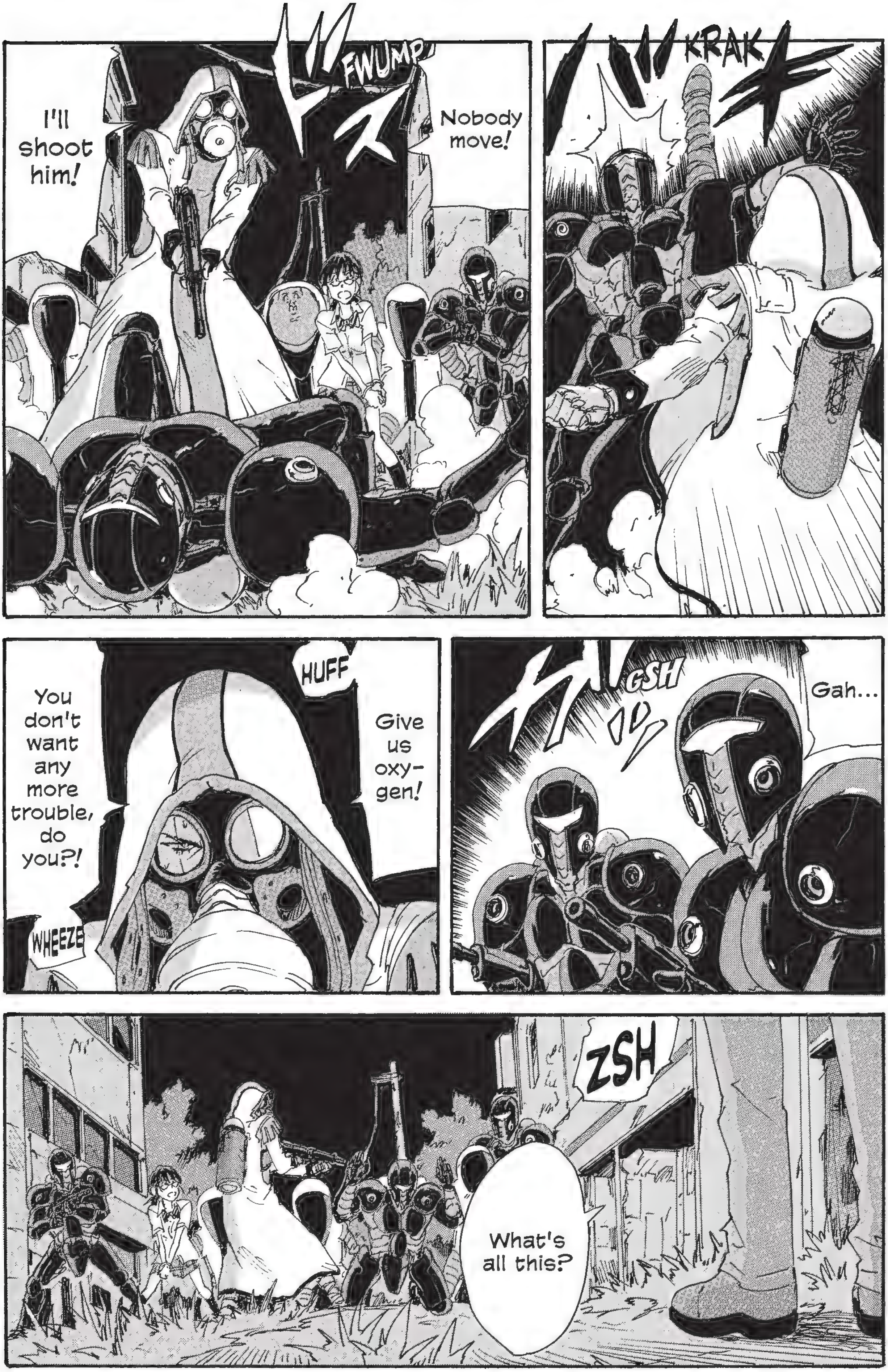

The encryption on it is annoyingly complex.
This will take some time, bro.
Want to ask her?
ROLL
Tell us your passwords, sandy!
We'll leave the rest to Yellow Cake.
What's wrong, sandy? Out with it!

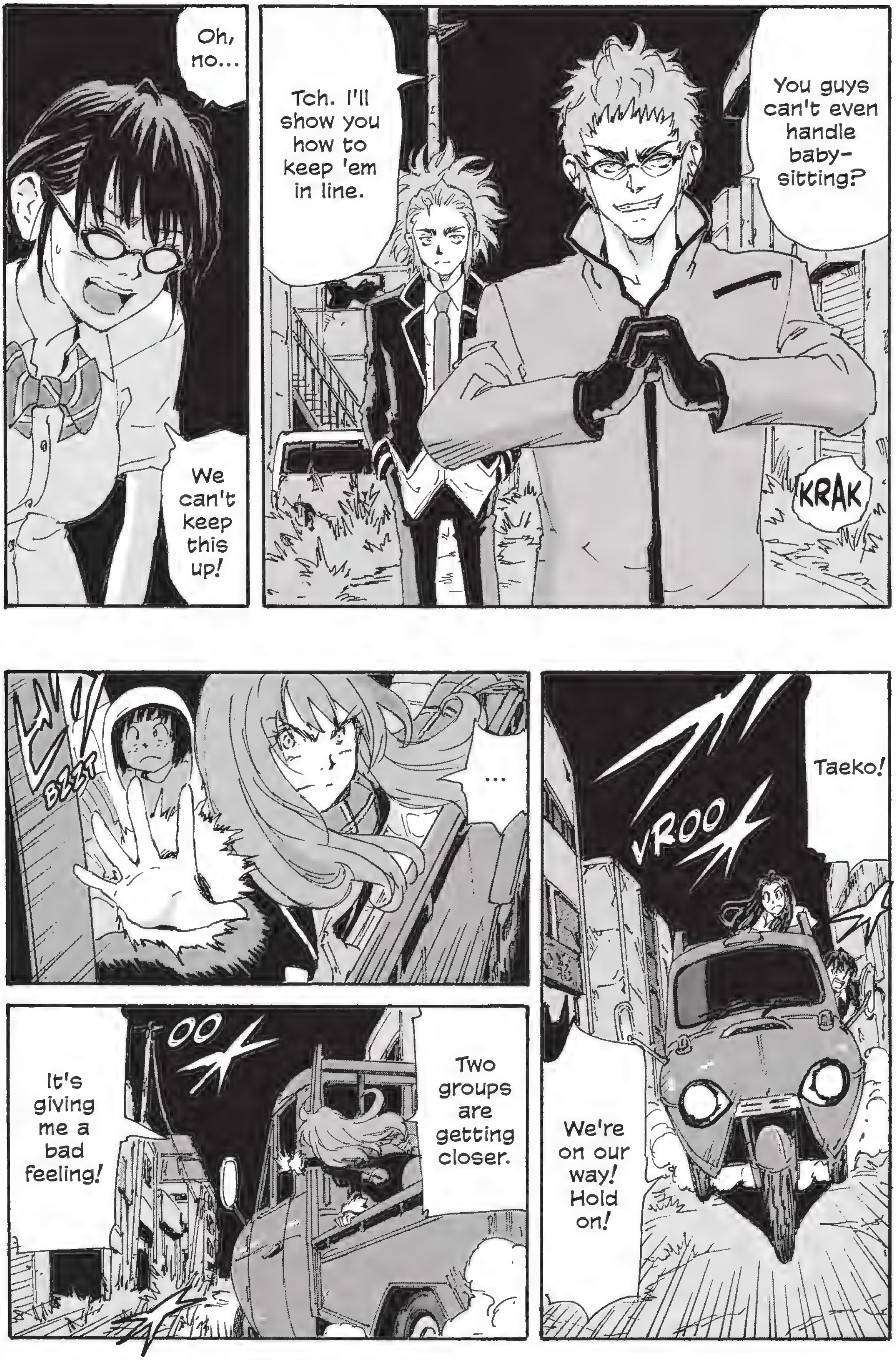

HUFF
Ugh ...
HOO
O-Oshizu! Are you okay?!
Miss Oshizu!
Her oxygen's run down too low!
Calm your breathing!
On your feet!
KCHK
We had to move because you pests set off that flare!
You're humans, the same as these people!
Please! Spare some oxygen for them!
Ha ha!
We lost our humanity a long time ago!
That's the kind of people Yellow Cake employs!
Now stand up!
Nobody has any oxygen for you!

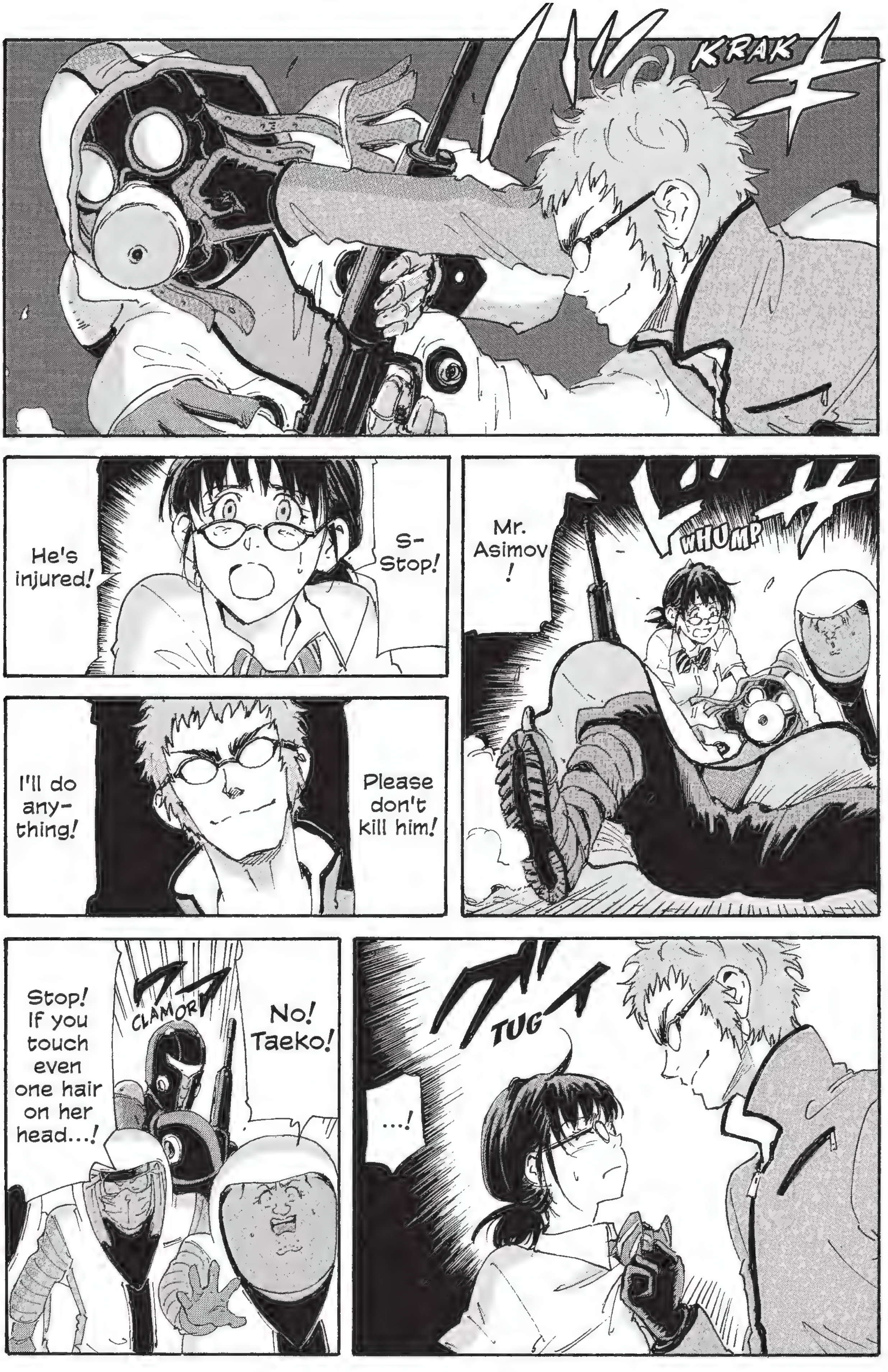

SKREE
This is the place?!
Looks like a school.
Where is everybody?!
BZZT
Wha—
Oi, Naruse!
There ain't a single soul here!
They must have moved!
Kanon, can you feel around the surrounding area?

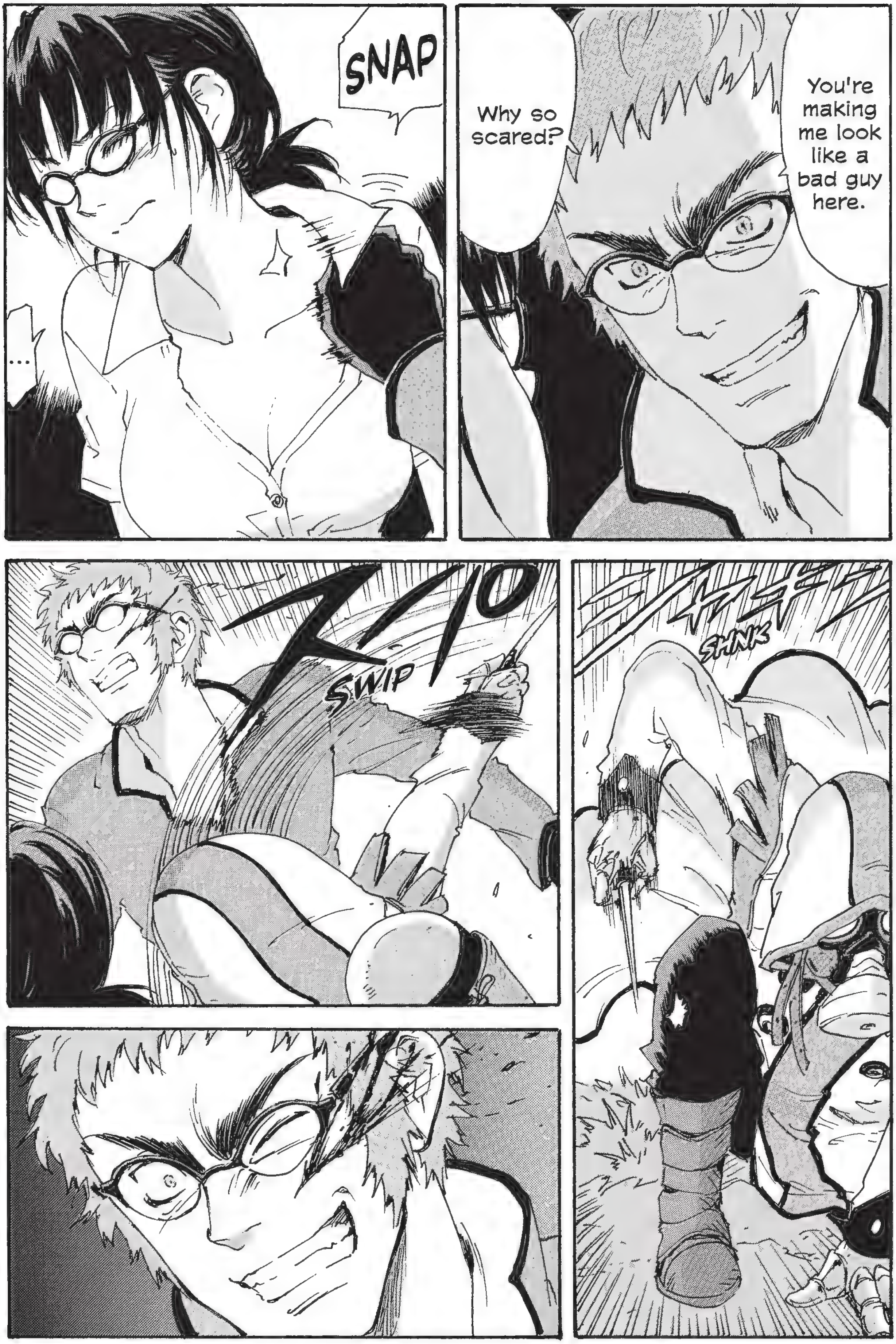

...
?!
BZZT
Slave-driver!
There's *multiple* groups out there!
What the—
Huh ?!
But why?!

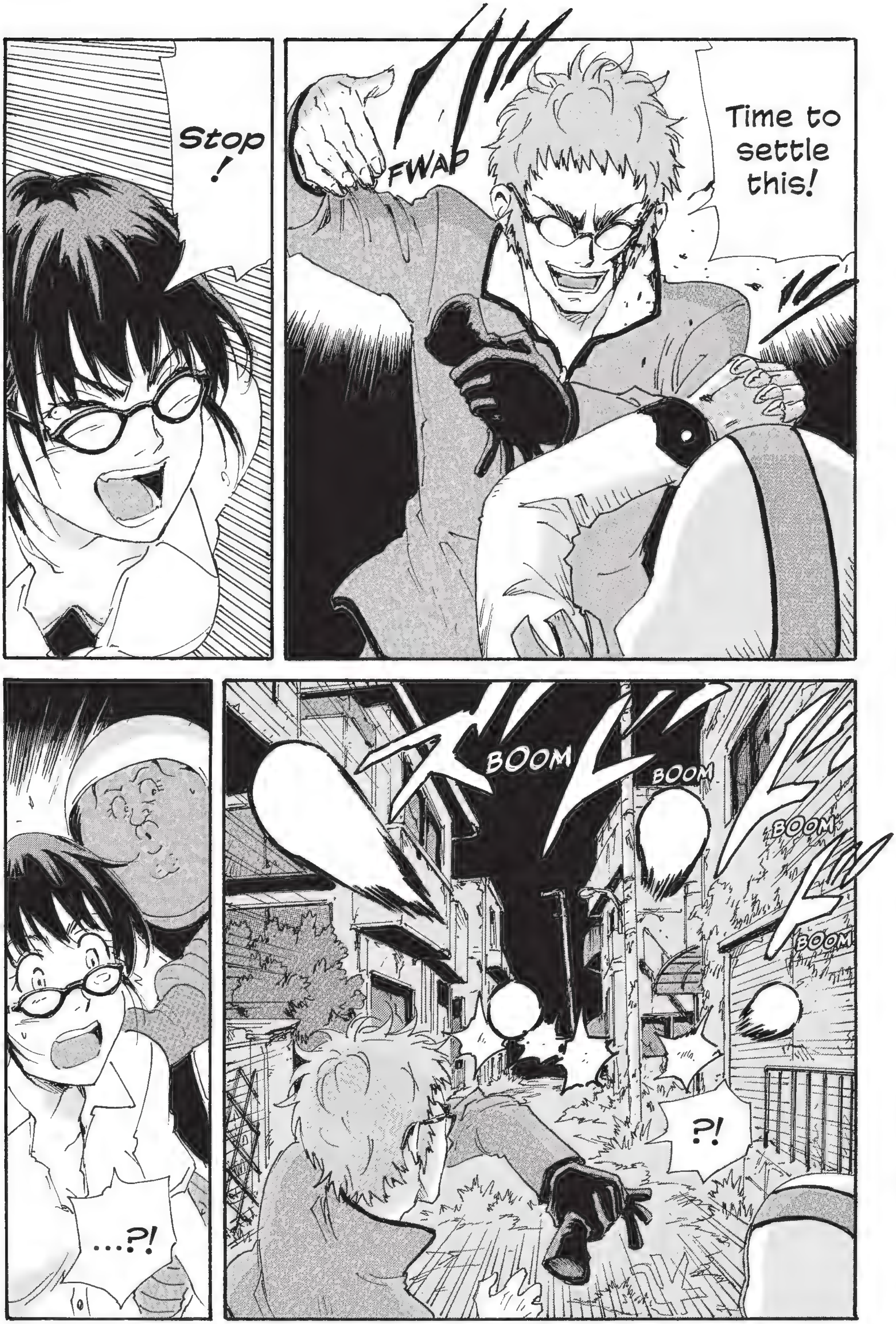

GRAB
PSST
Huh?!
What are you planning?
PSST
Mama Akiko.
At this rate, everyone's oxygen will run out...!
You bitch! That's the last straw!
KCHK
Y—
!
SMASH
!
GRAB

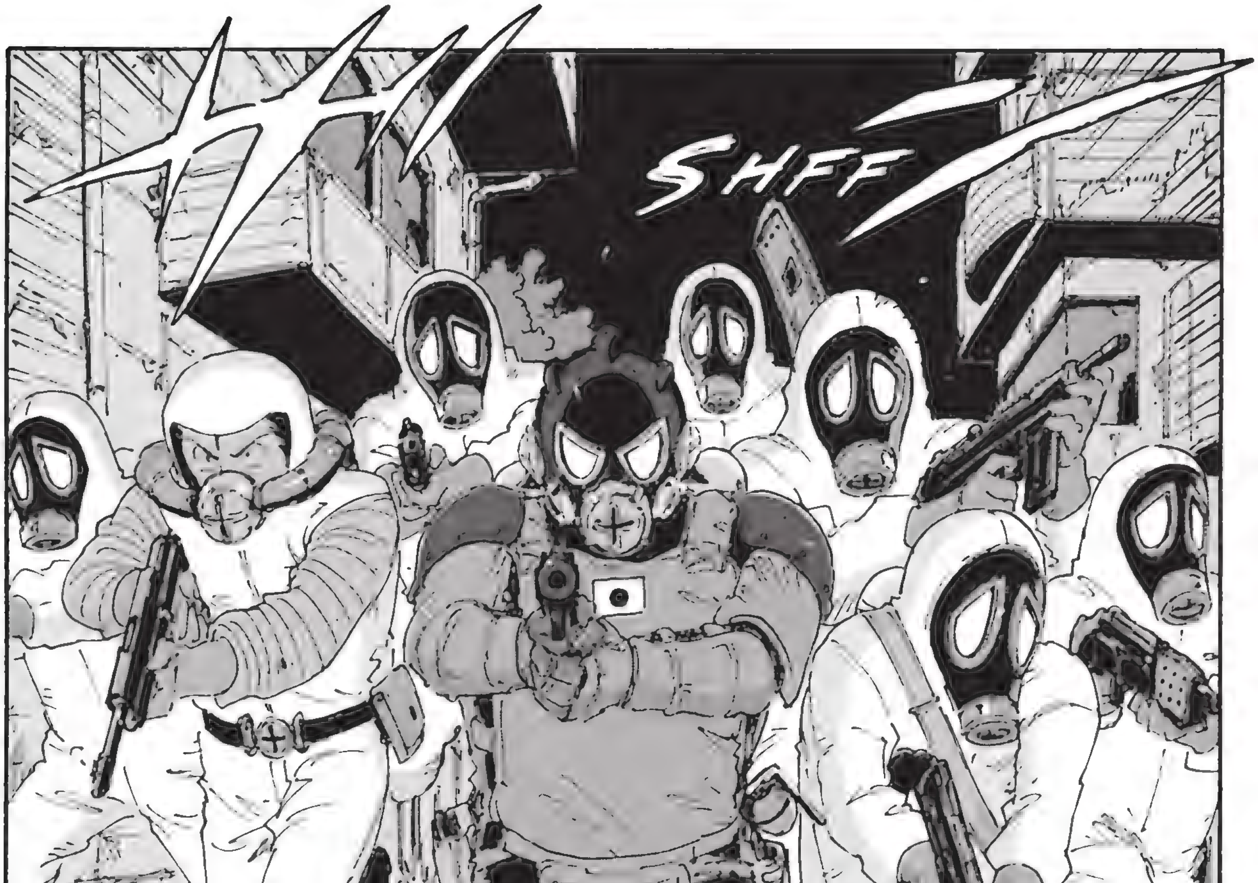

KRAK
FWUMP
Nobody move!
I'll shoot him!
GSH
Gah...
HUFF
Give us oxygen!
You don't want any more trouble, do you?!
WHEEZE
ZSH
What's all this?

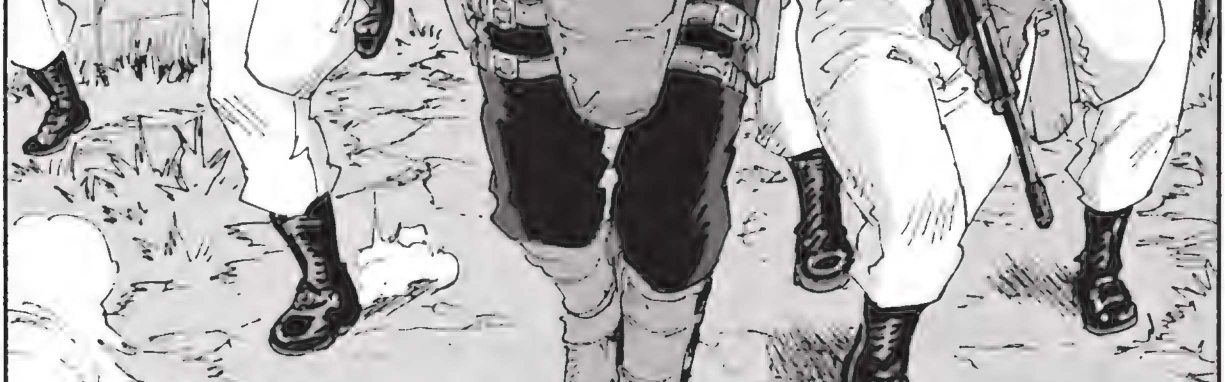

You guys can't even handle baby-sitting?
Tch. I'll show you how to keep 'em in line.
KRAK
Oh, no...
We can't keep this up!
Taeko!
VROO
We're on our way! Hold on!
BZZT
...
OO
Two groups are getting closer.
It's giving me a bad feeling!

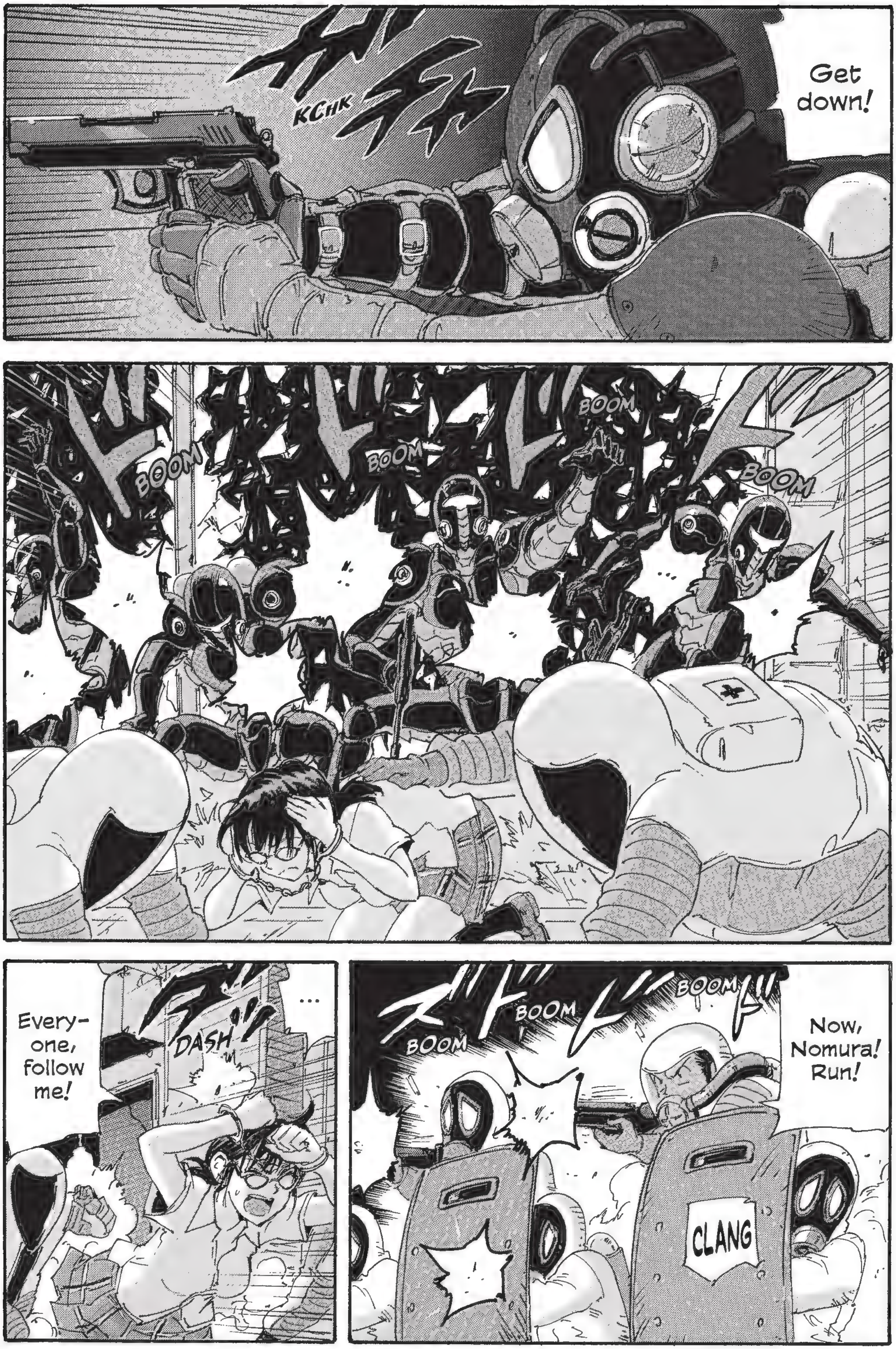

KRAK
WHUMP
Mr. Asimov!
S-Stop!
He's injured!
Please don't kill him!
I'll do anything!
TUG
...!
No! Taeko!
CLAMOR
Stop! If you touch even one hair on her head...!

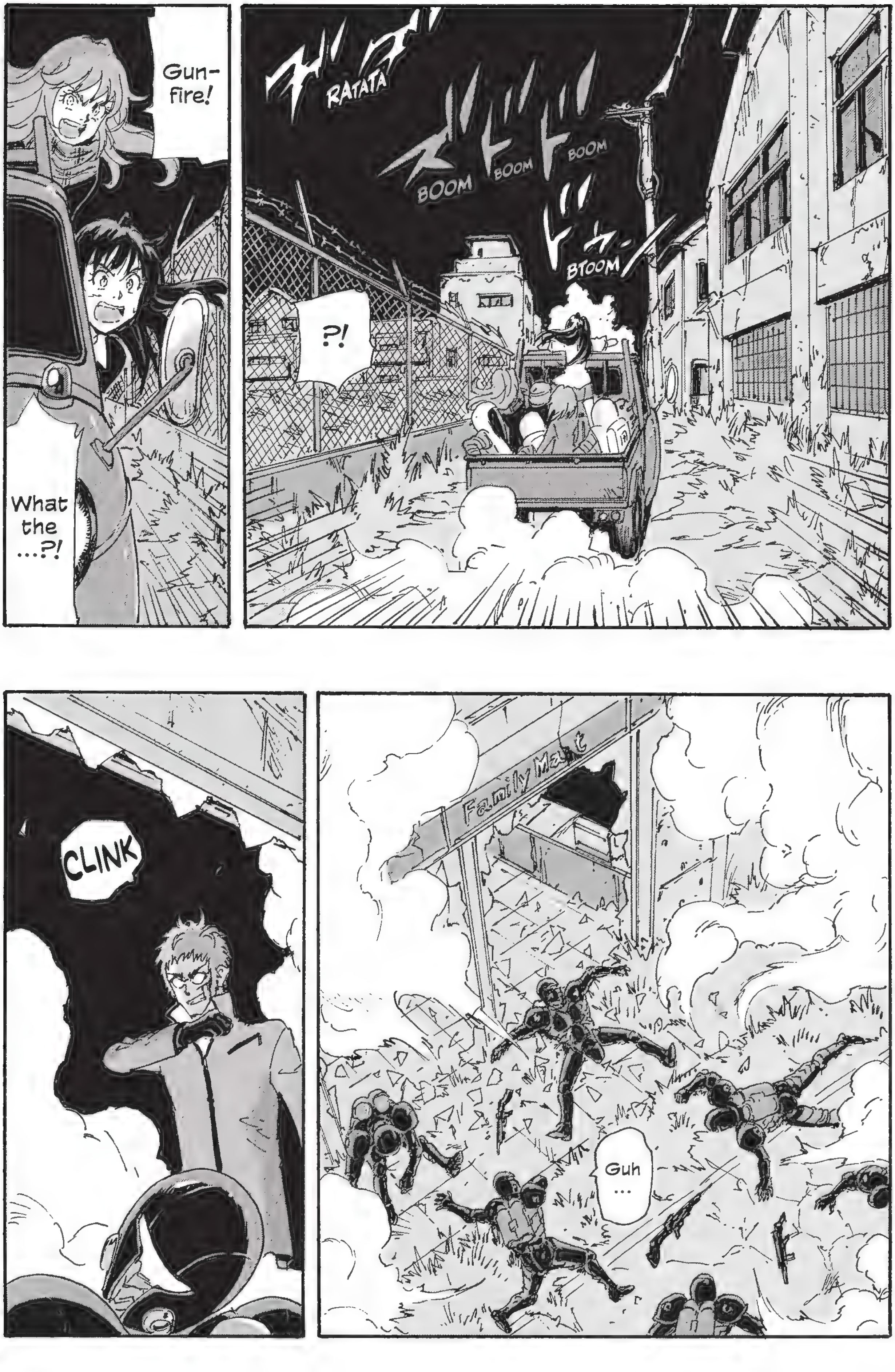

You're making me look like a bad guy here.
Why so scared?
SNAP
...
SHNK
SWIP

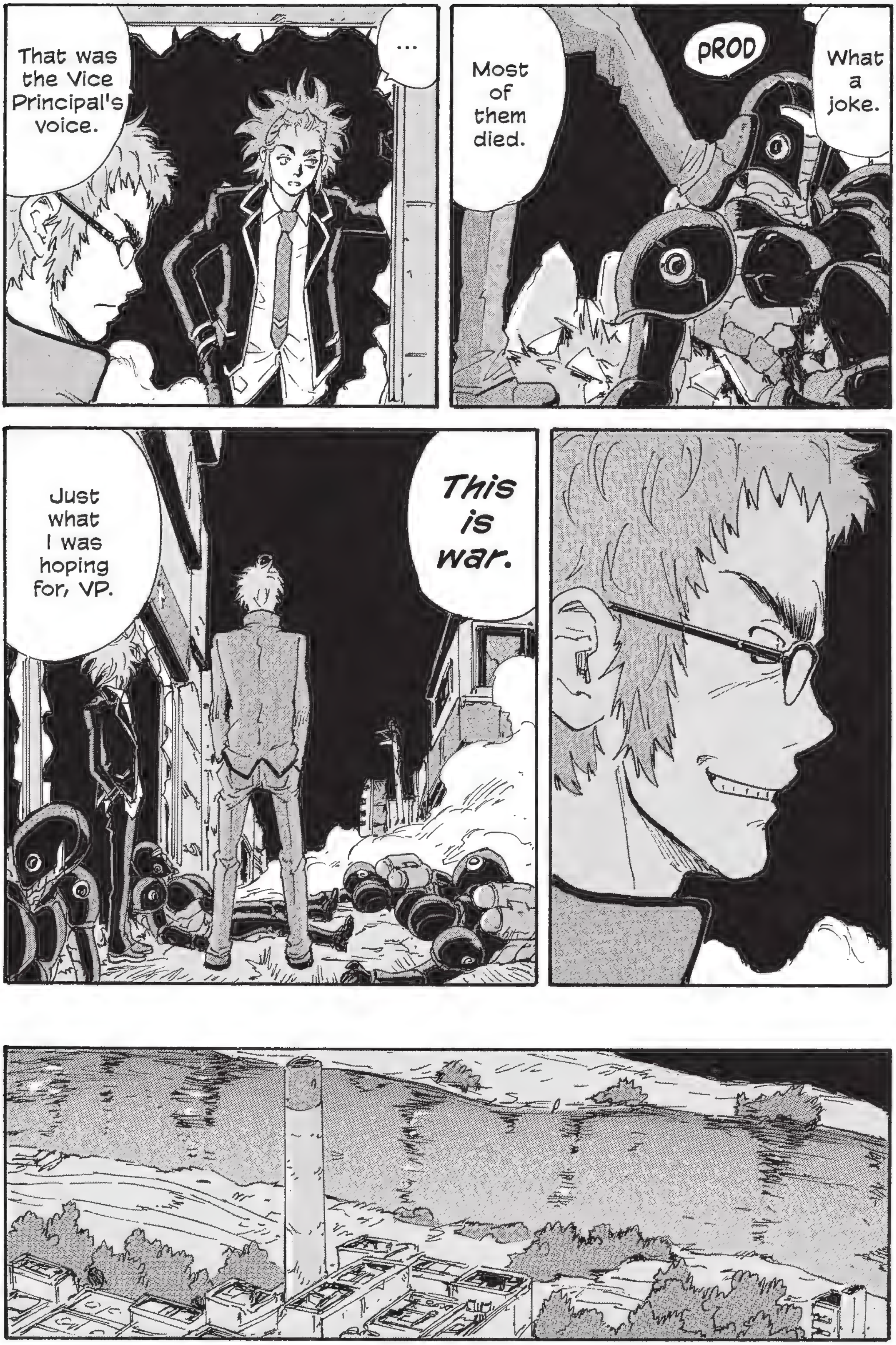

Time to settle this!
FWAP
Stop!
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
?!
...?!

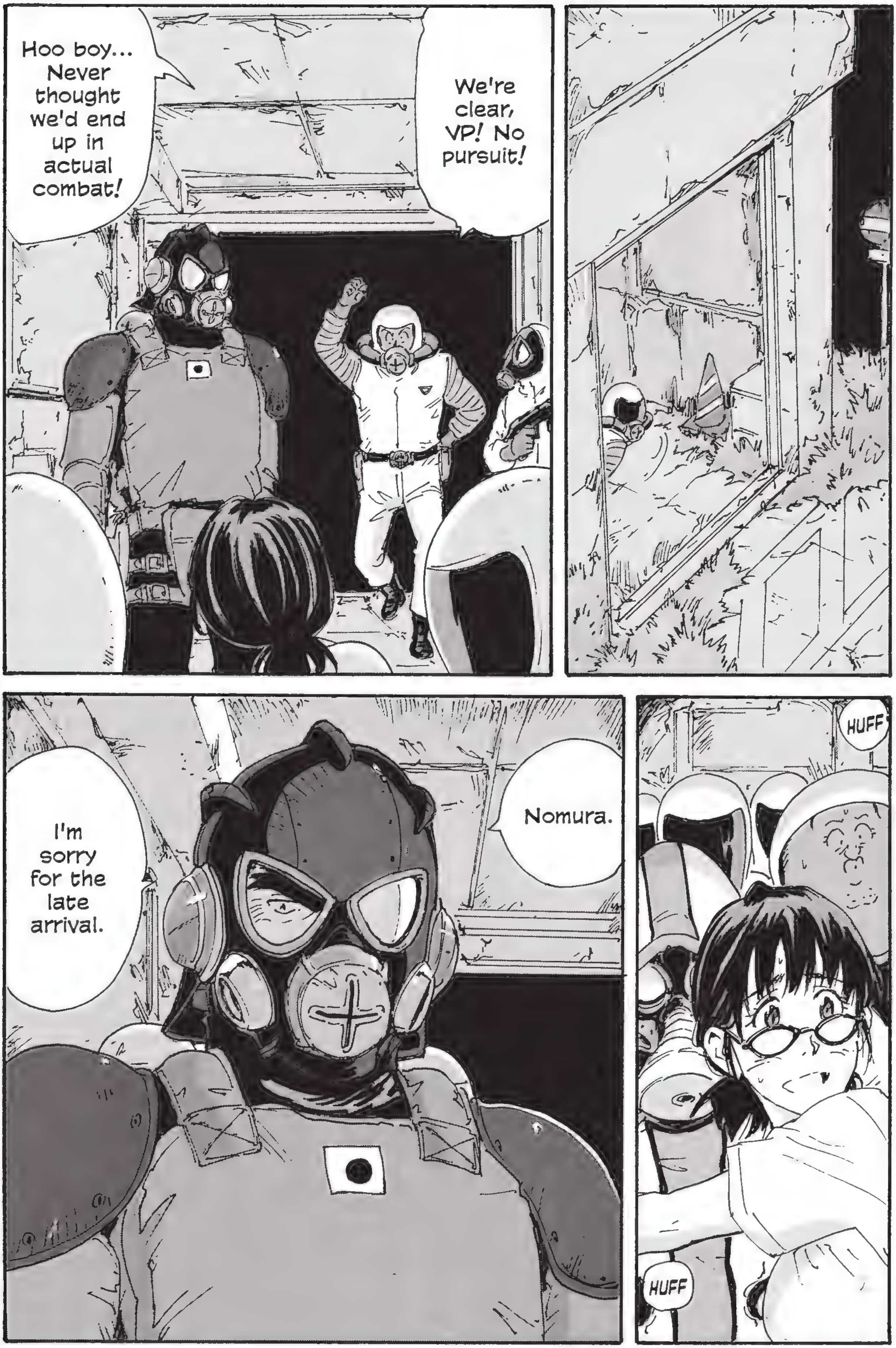

SHFF

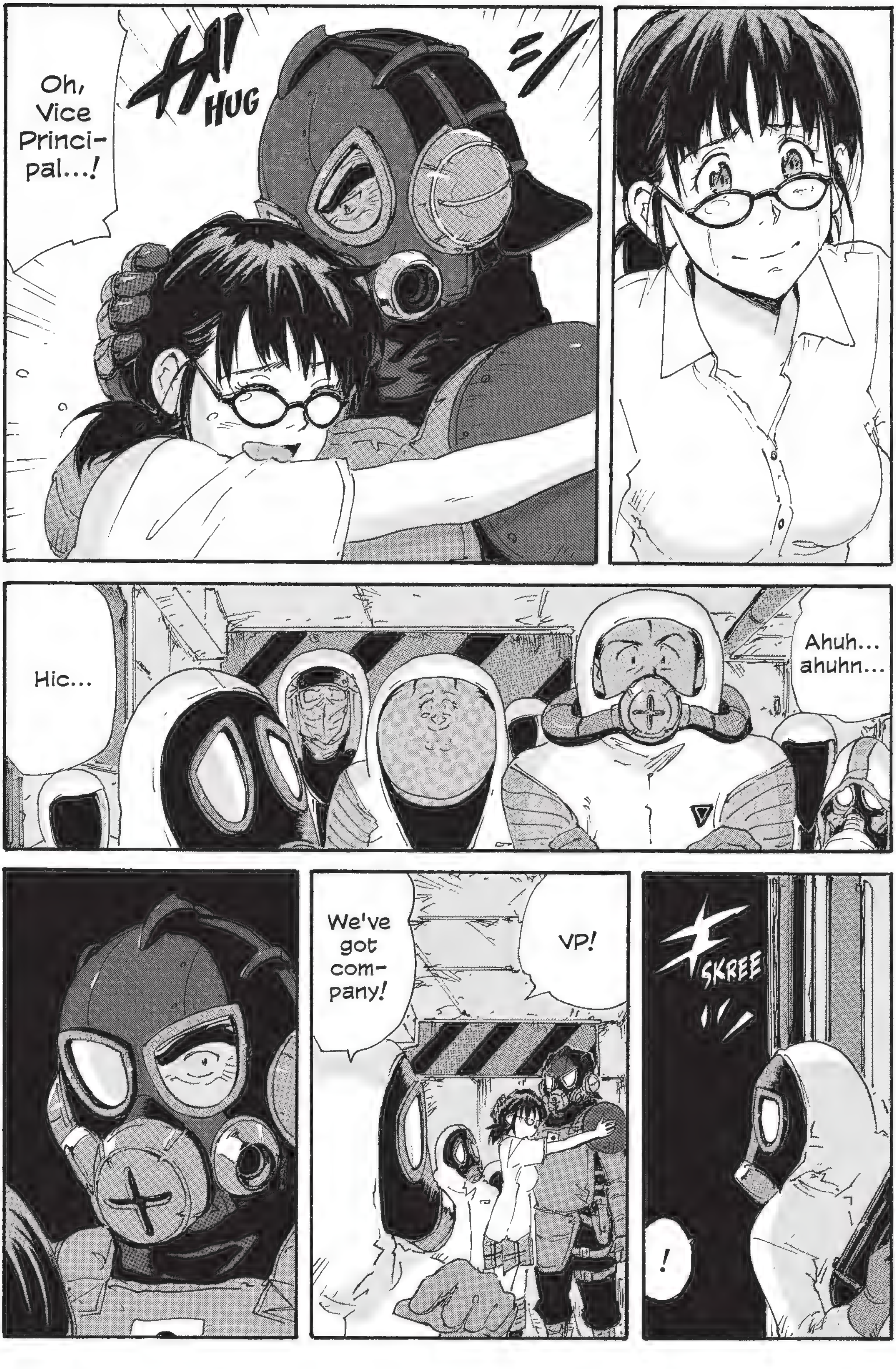

V...
Vice Principal Mishima ?!

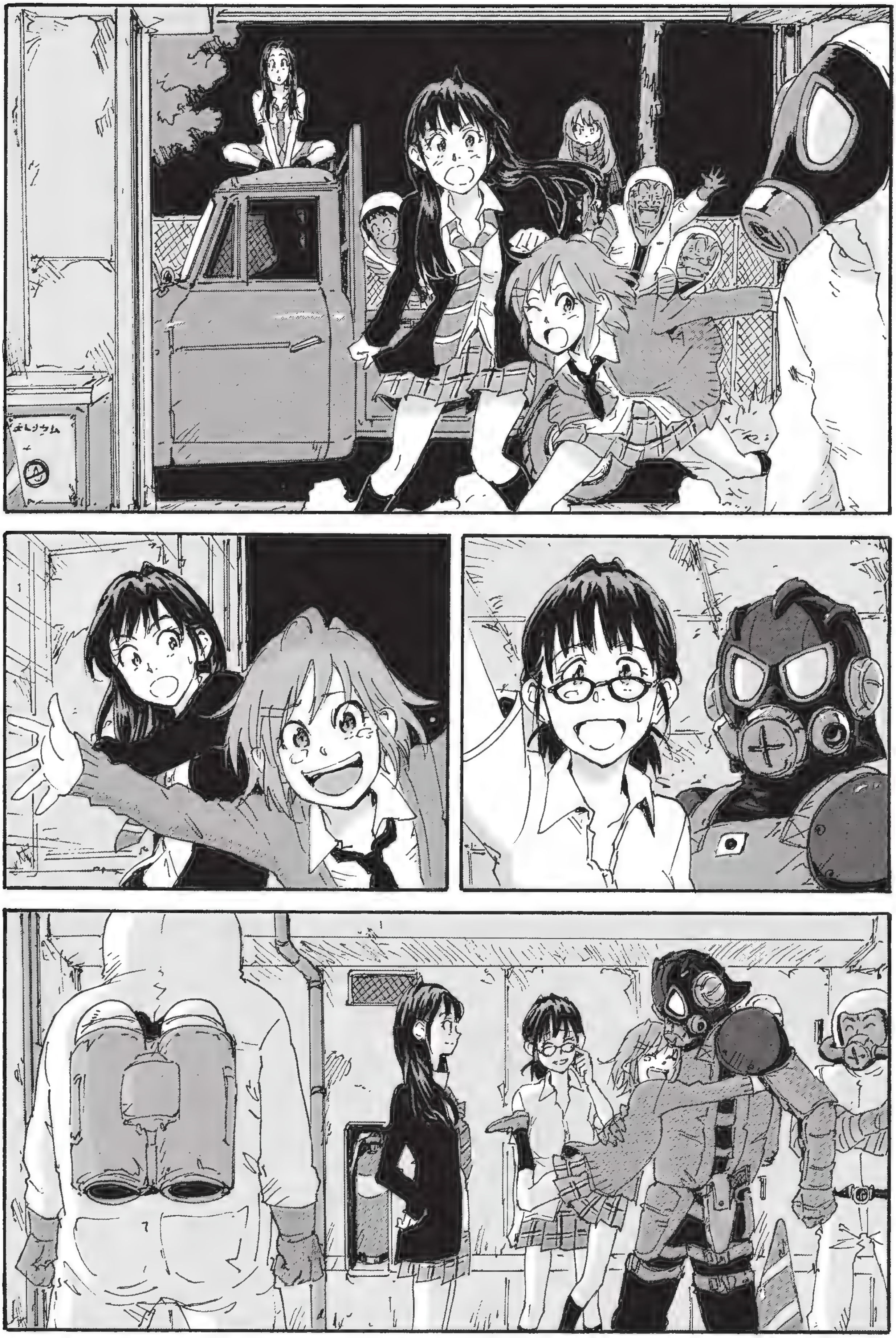

Get down!
KCHK
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
Now, Nomura! Run!
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
CLANG
...
Everyone, follow me!
DASH

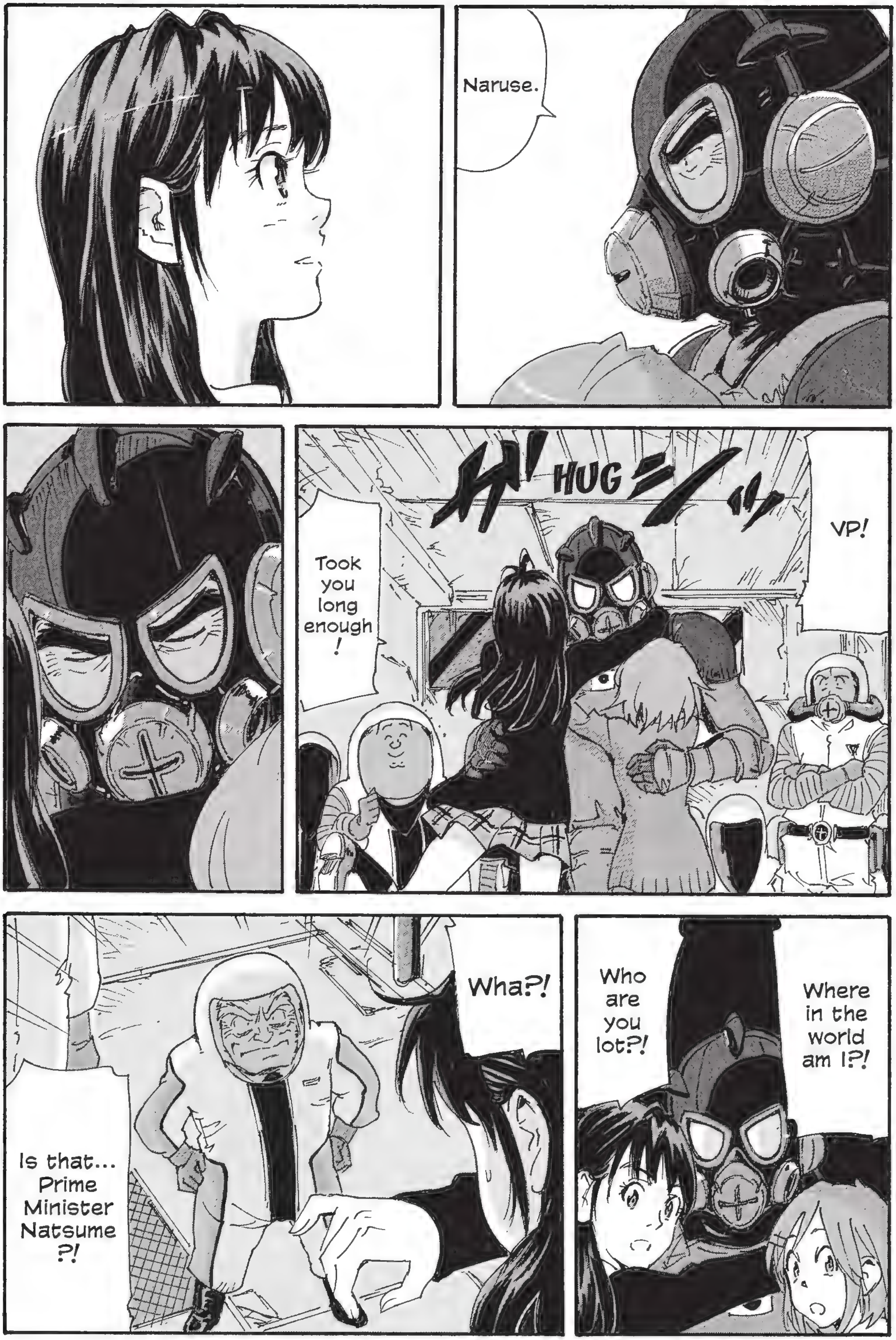

ズガガ
RATATA
ズドドド
BOOM BOOM BOOM
ドゥン
BTOOM
?!
Gun-fire!
What the ...?!
Family Mart
Guh ...
CLINK

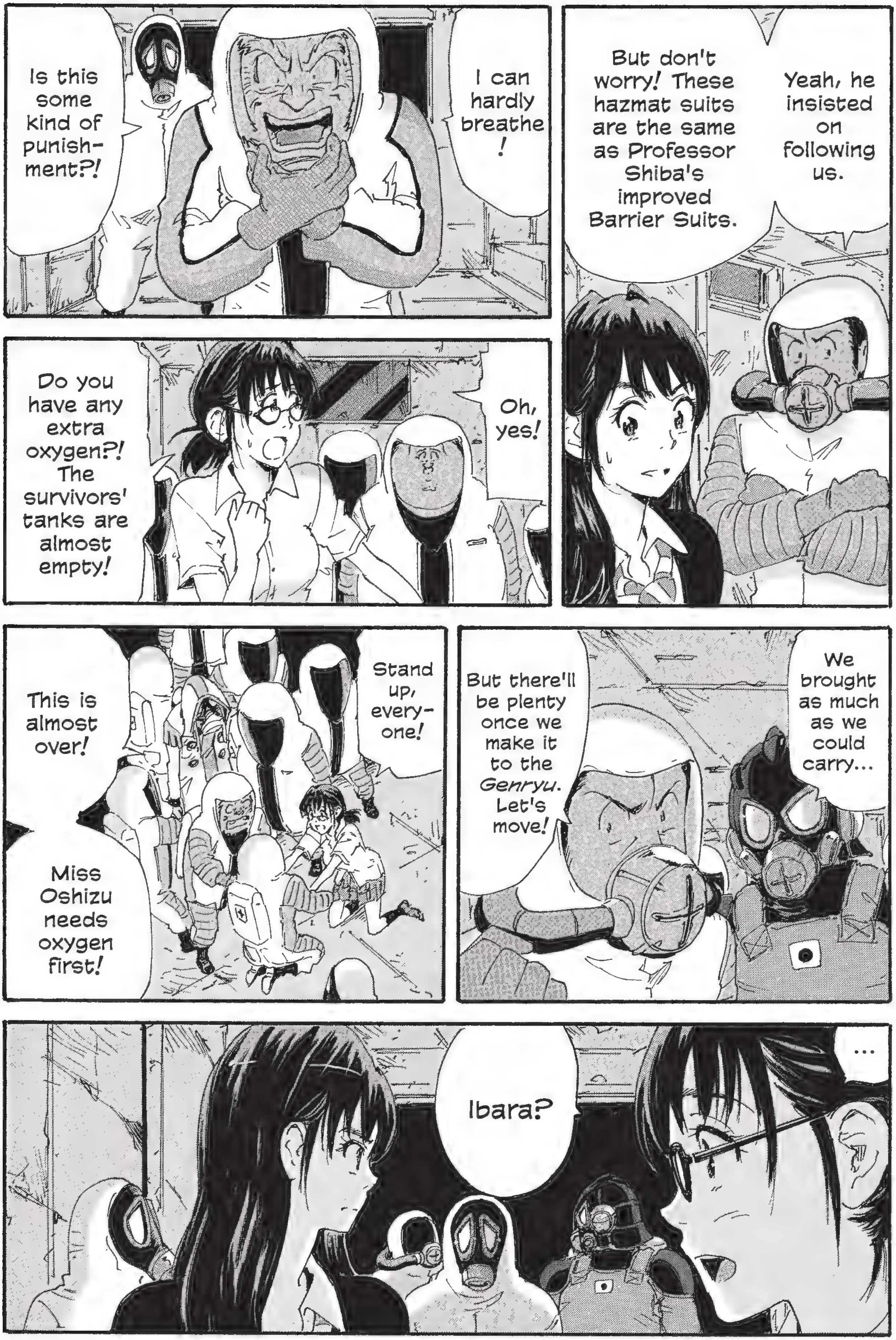

That was the Vice Principal's voice.
...
Most of them died.
PROD
What a joke.
Just what I was hoping for, VP.
This is war.

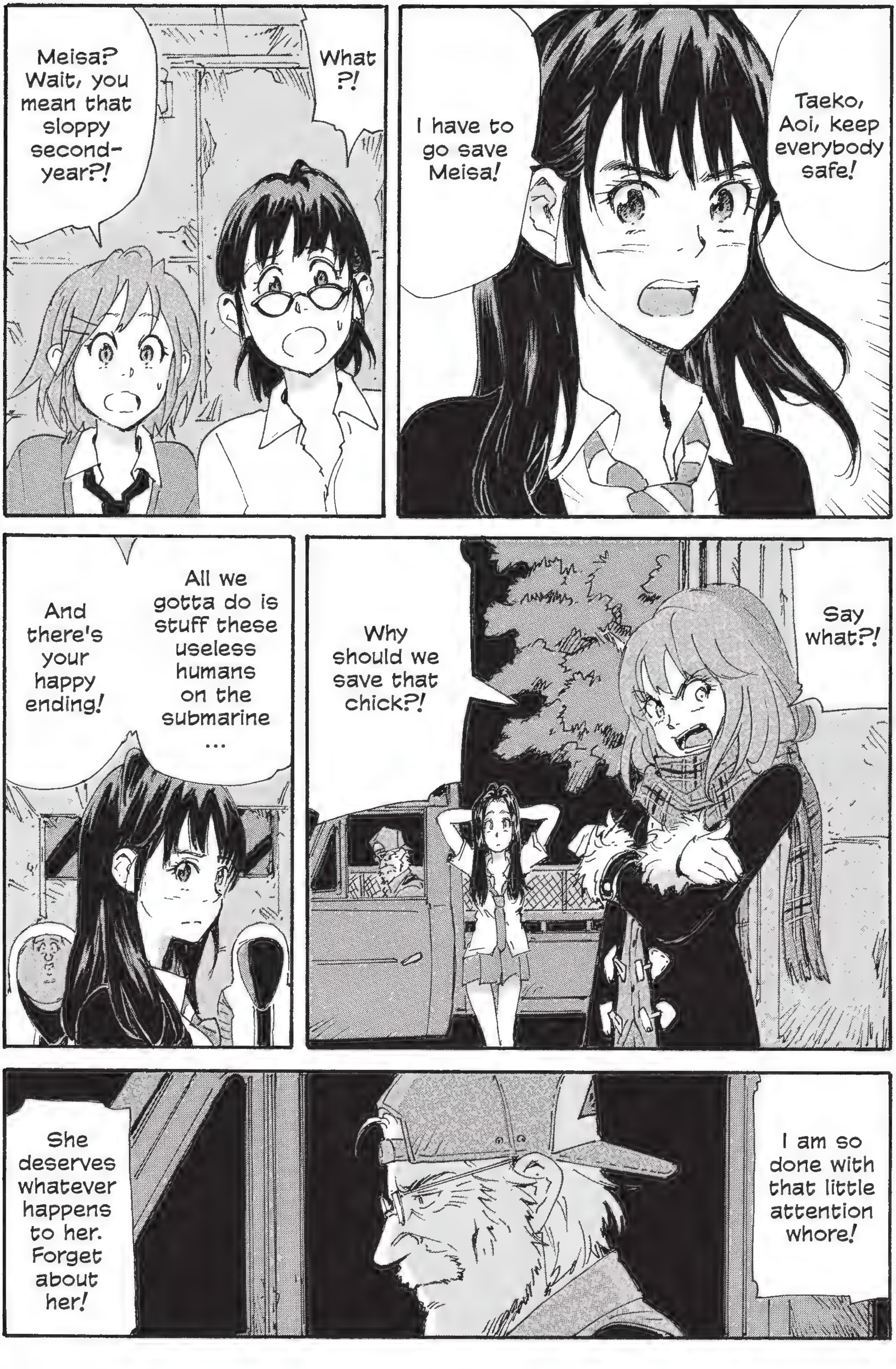

We're clear, VP! No pursuit!
Hoo boy... Never thought we'd end up in actual combat!
HUFF
HUFF
Nomura.
I'm sorry for the late arrival.

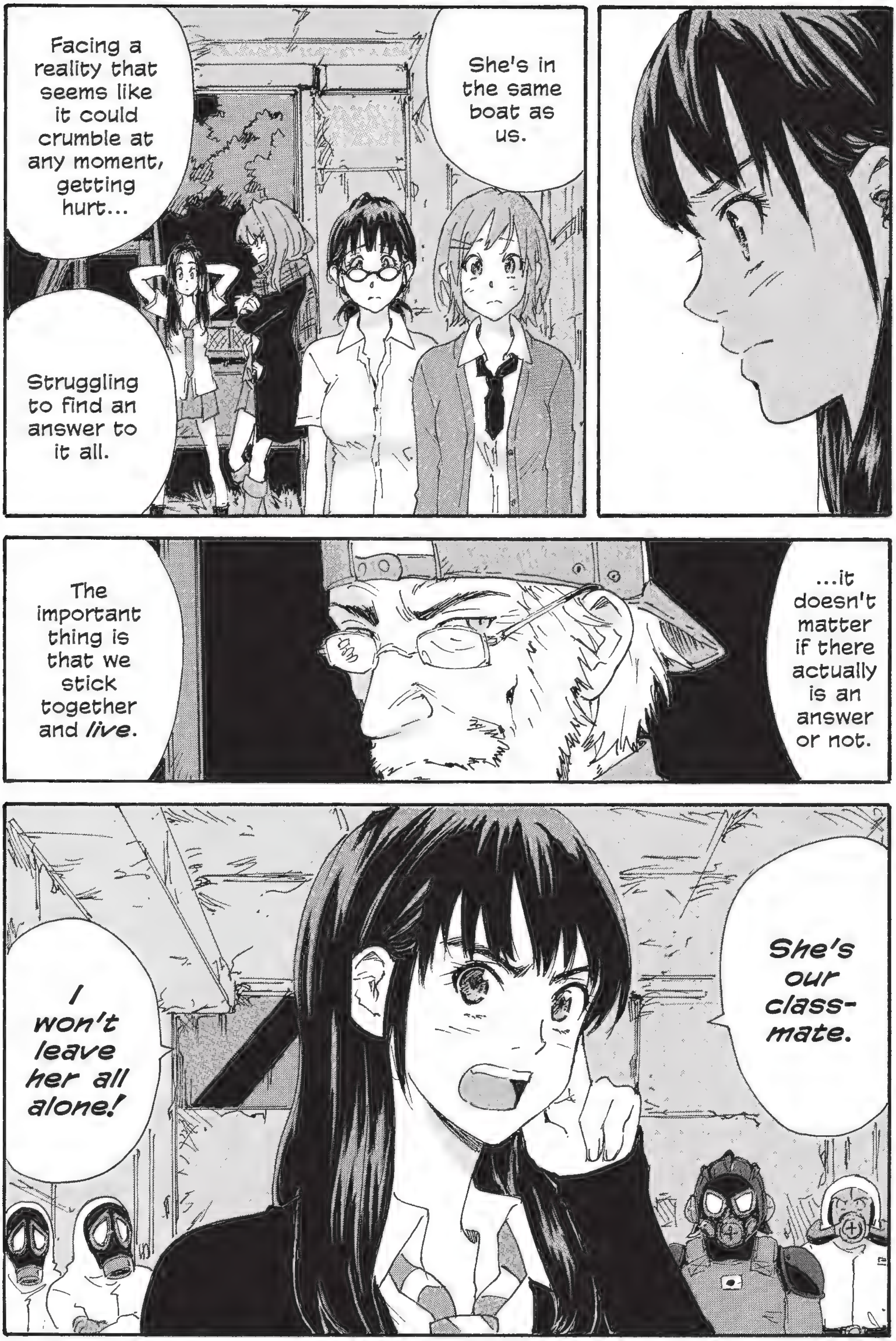

Oh, Vice Principal...!
HUG
Ahuh... ahuhn...
Hic...
SKREE
!
VP!
We've got company!

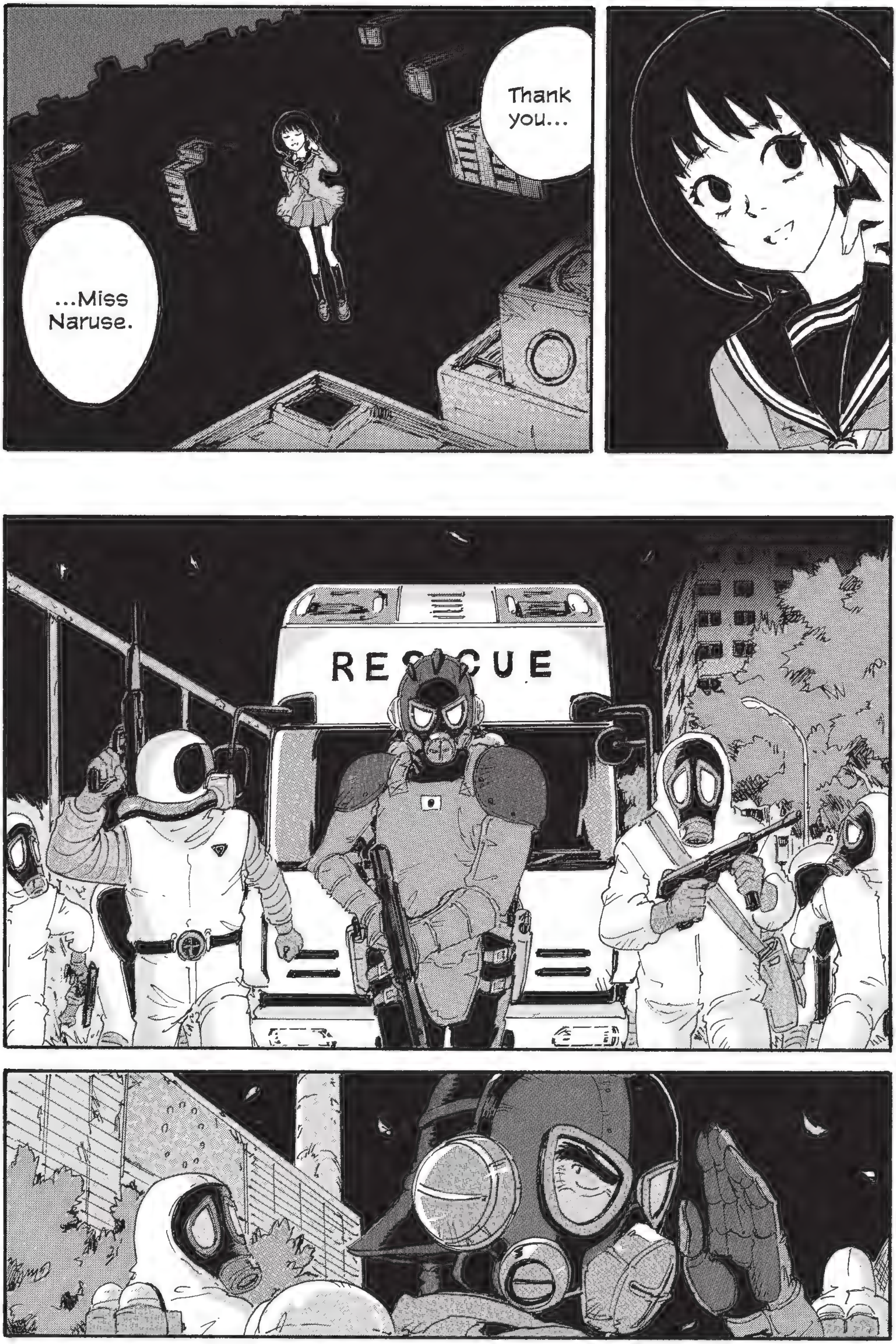

ヘリウム

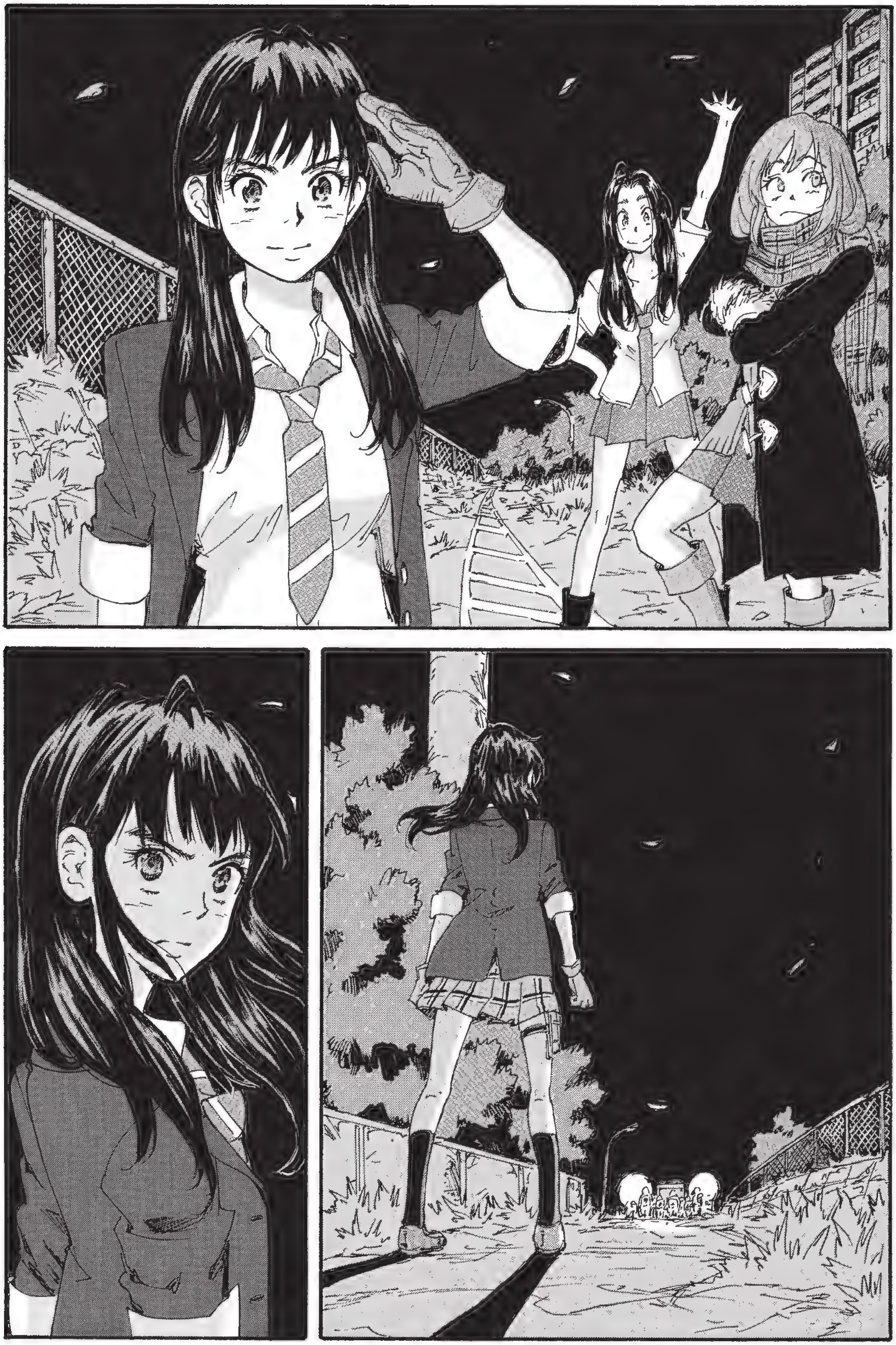

Naruse.
VP!
HUG
Took you long enough!
Where in the world am I?!
Who are you lot?!
Wha?!
Is that... Prime Minister Natsume?!

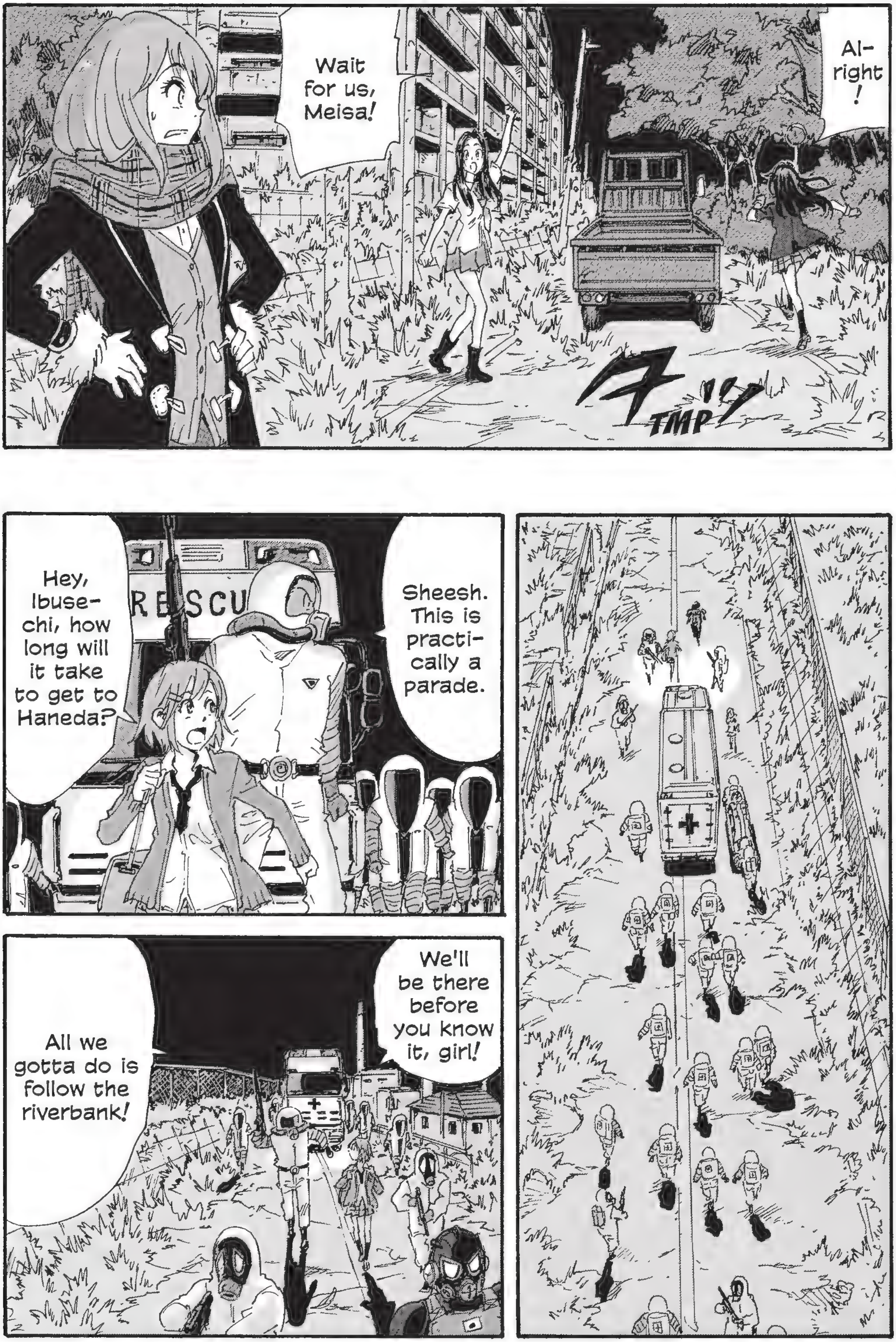

Yeah, he insisted on following us.
But don't worry! These hazmat suits are the same as Professor Shiba's improved Barrier Suits.
I can hardly breathe!
Is this some kind of punishment?!
Oh, yes!
Do you have any extra oxygen?! The survivors' tanks are almost empty!
We brought as much as we could carry...
But there'll be plenty once we make it to the *Genryu*. Let's move!
Stand up, everyone!
This is almost over!
Miss Oshizu needs oxygen first!
...
Ibara?

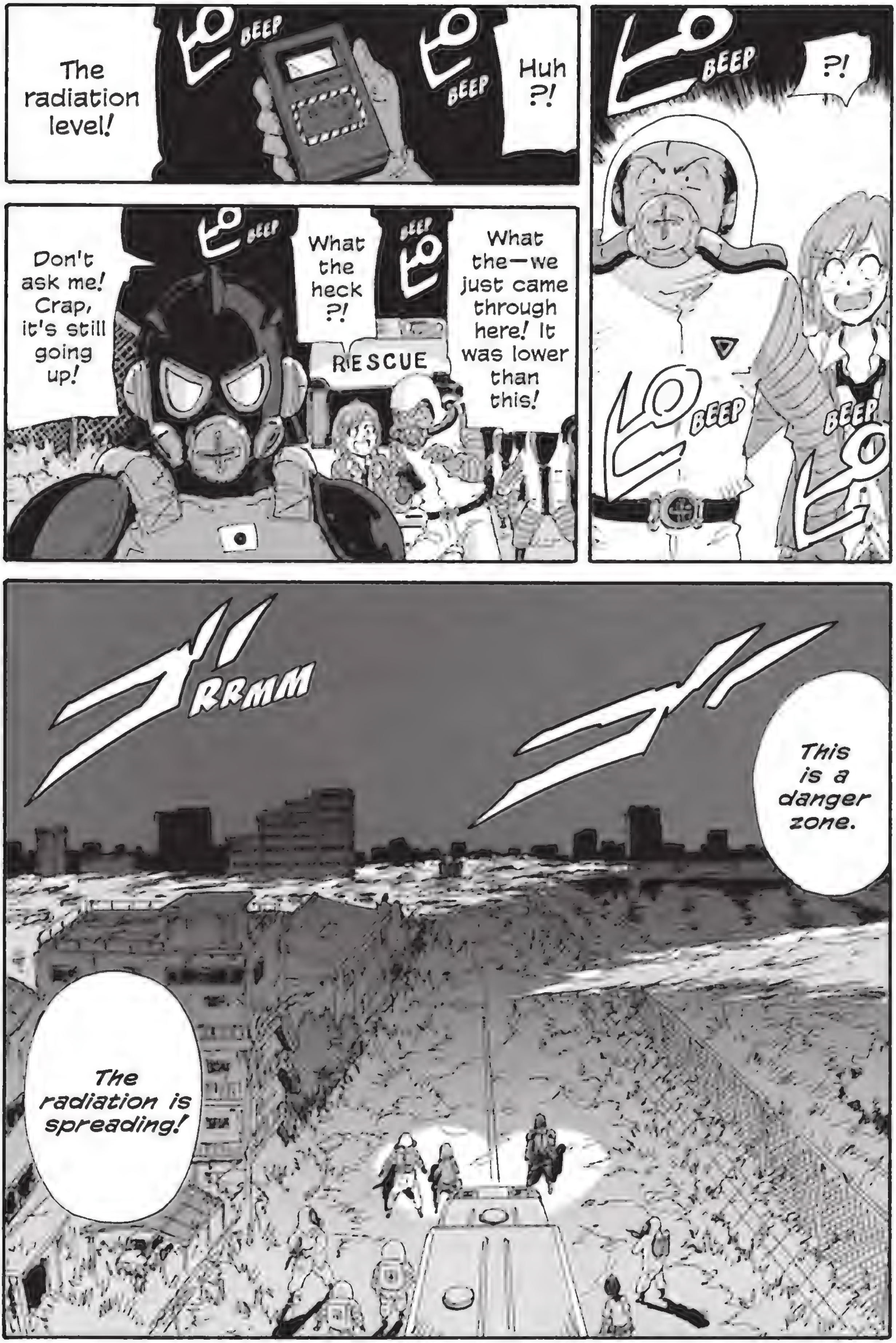

Taeko, Aoi, keep everybody safe!
I have to go save Meisa!
What?!
Meisa? Wait, you mean that sloppy second-year?!
Say what?!
Why should we save that chick?!
All we gotta do is stuff these useless humans on the submarine...
And there's your happy ending!
I am so done with that little attention whore!
She deserves whatever happens to her. Forget about her!


She's in the same boat as us.
Facing a reality that seems like it could crumble at any moment, getting hurt...
Struggling to find an answer to it all.
...it doesn't matter if there actually is an answer or not.
The important thing is that we stick together and *live*.
She's our classmate.
I won't leave her all alone!

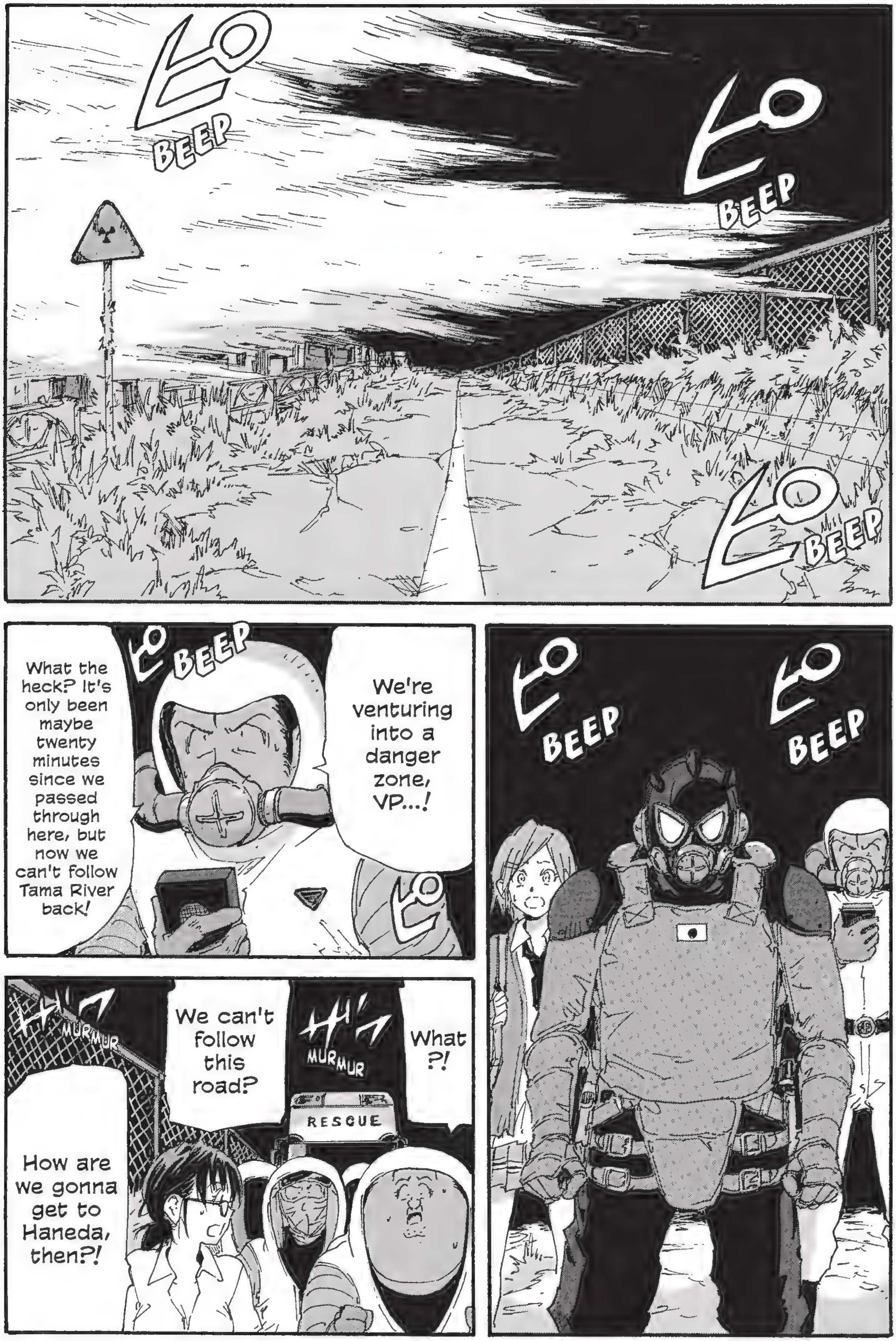

Thank you...
...Miss Naruse.
RESCUE

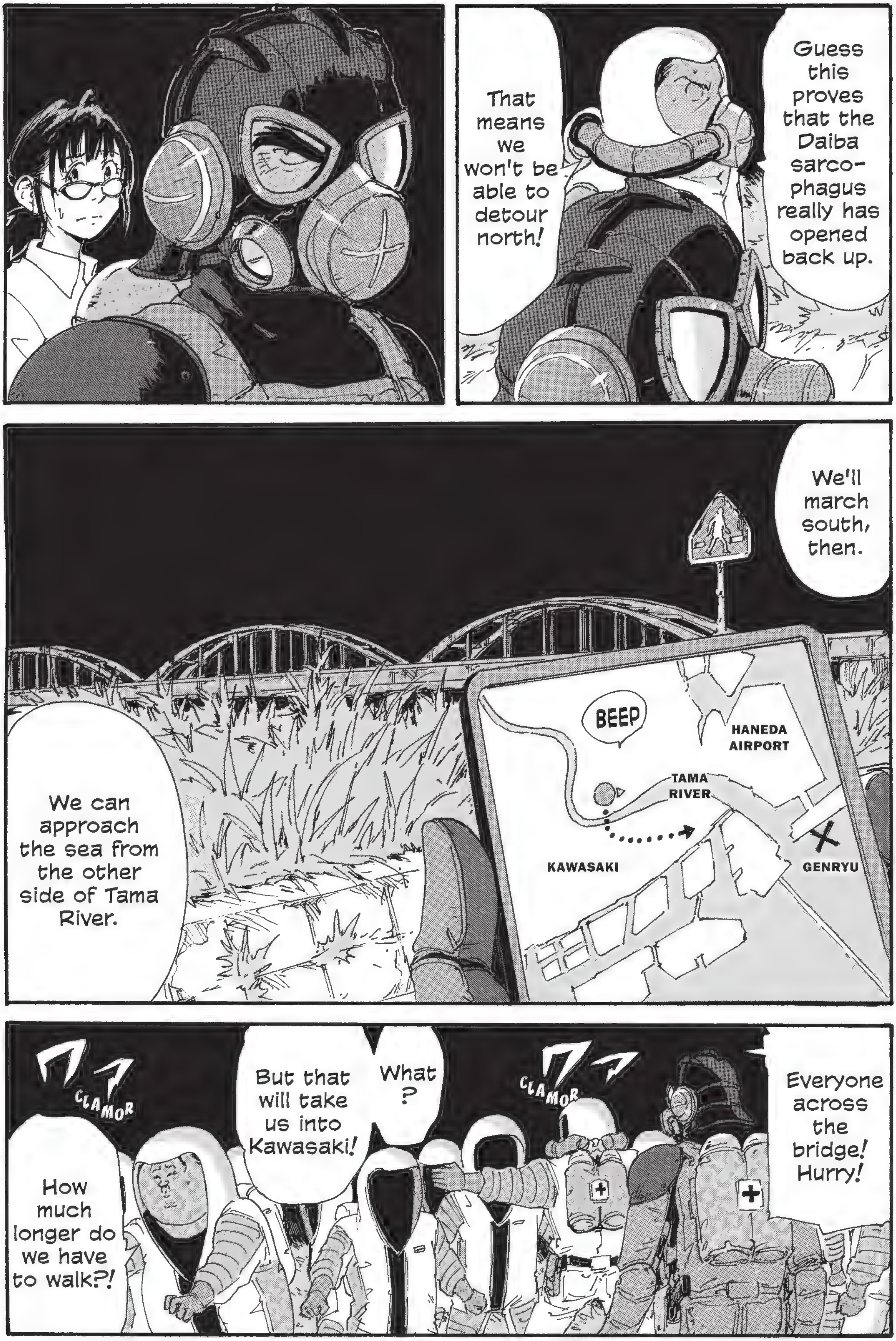


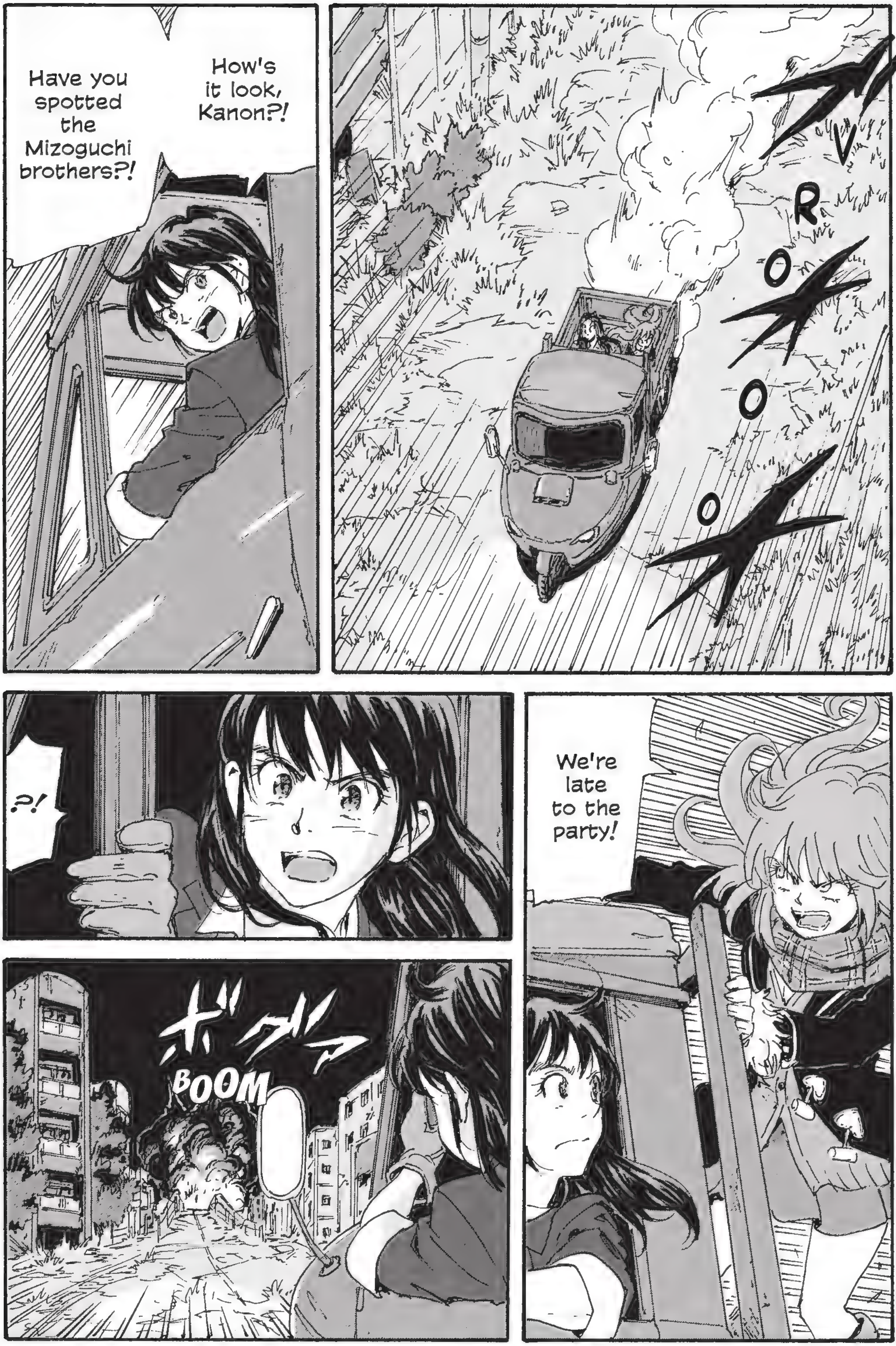

Al-right!
Wait for us, Meisa!
TMP!
Sheesh. This is practically a parade.
Hey, Ibuse-chi, how long will it take to get to Haneda?
RESCU
We'll be there before you know it, girl!
All we gotta do is follow the riverbank!

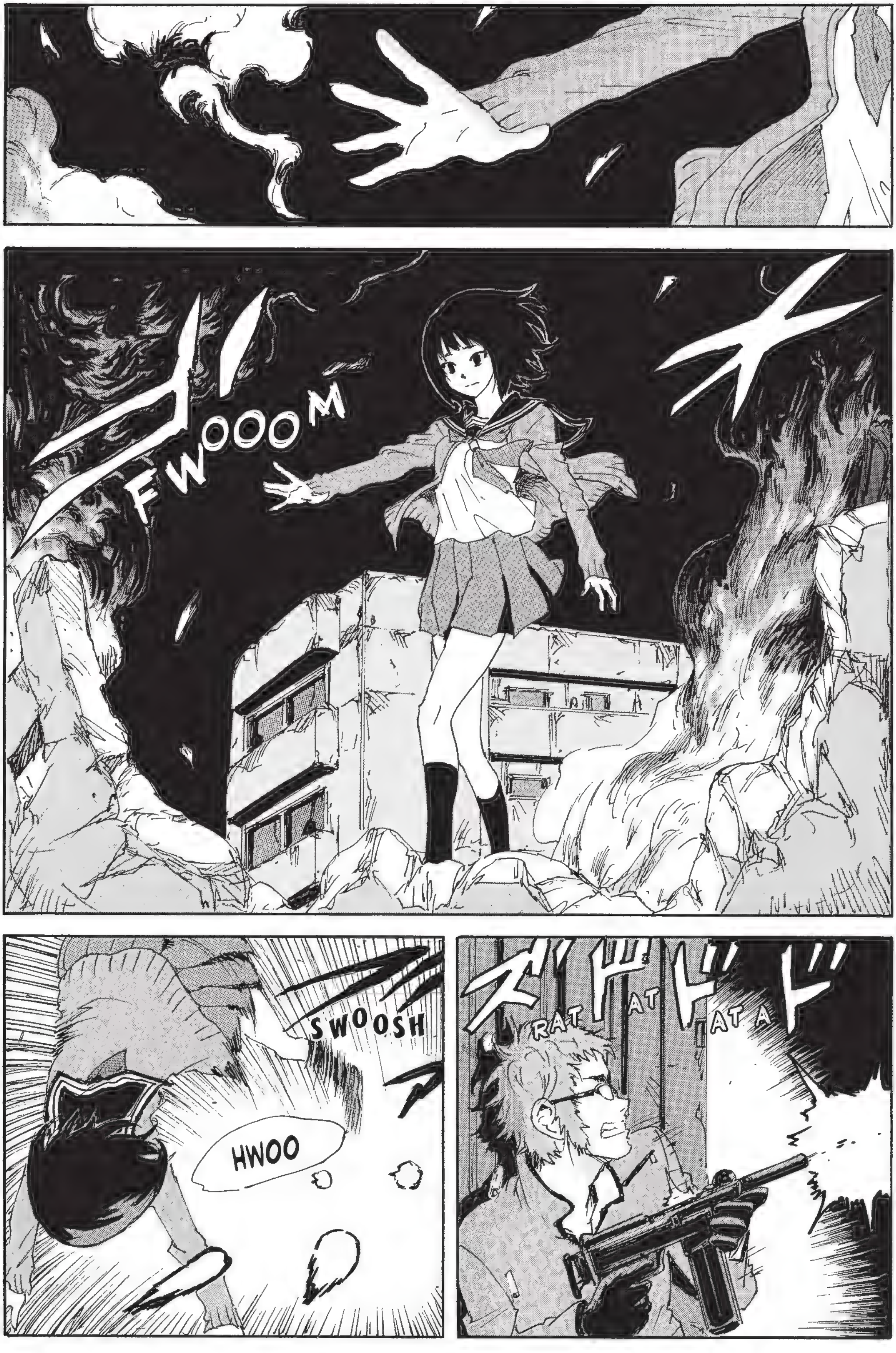

BEEP
?!
BEEP
BEEP
Huh ?!
BEEP
BEEP
The radiation level!
What the—we just came through here! It was lower than this!
BEEP
What the heck ?!
RESCUE
BEEP
Don't ask me! Crap, it's still going up!
RRMM
This is a danger zone.
The radiation is spreading!

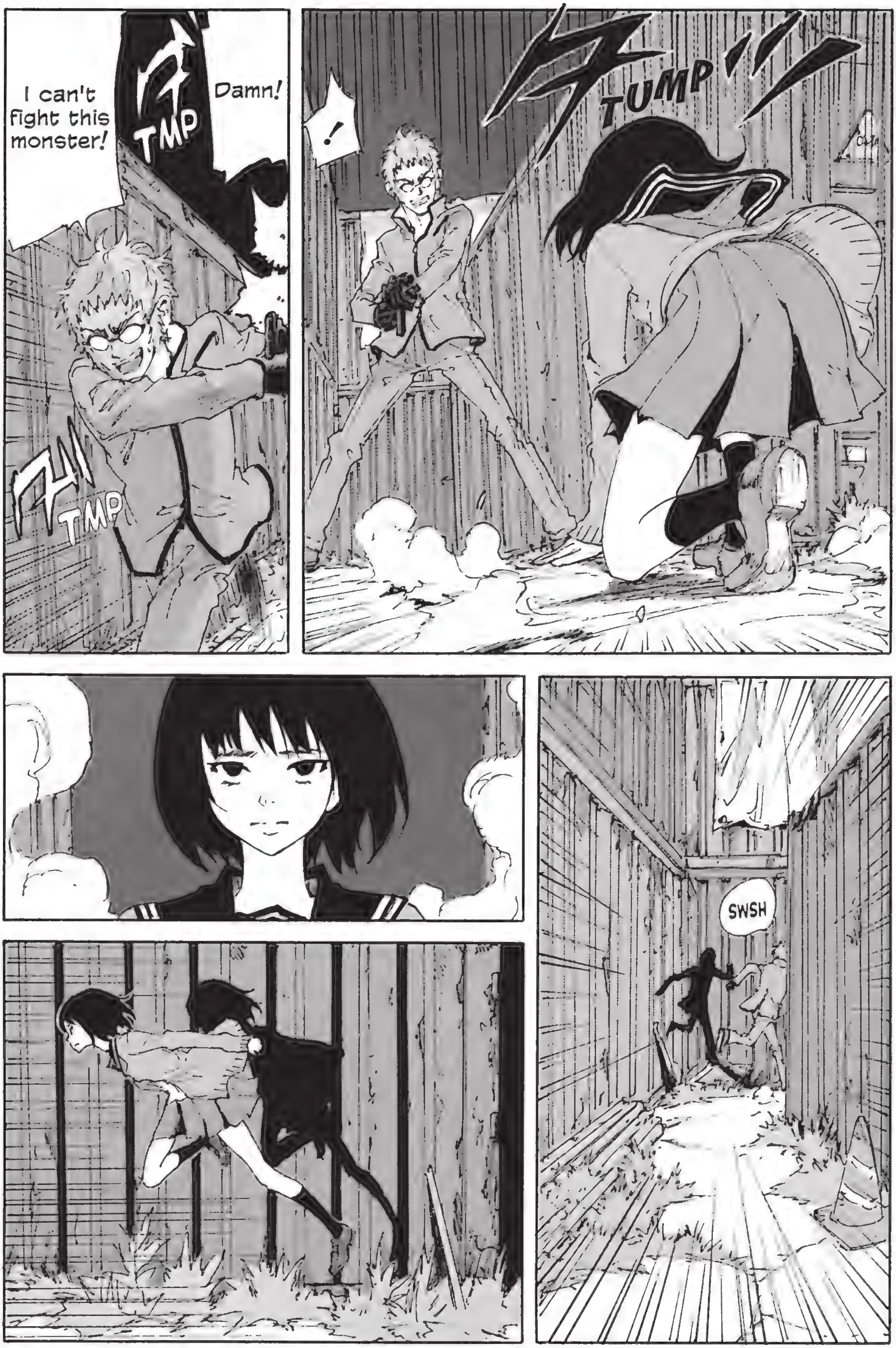
Act.28【 Battle against the Wall 】

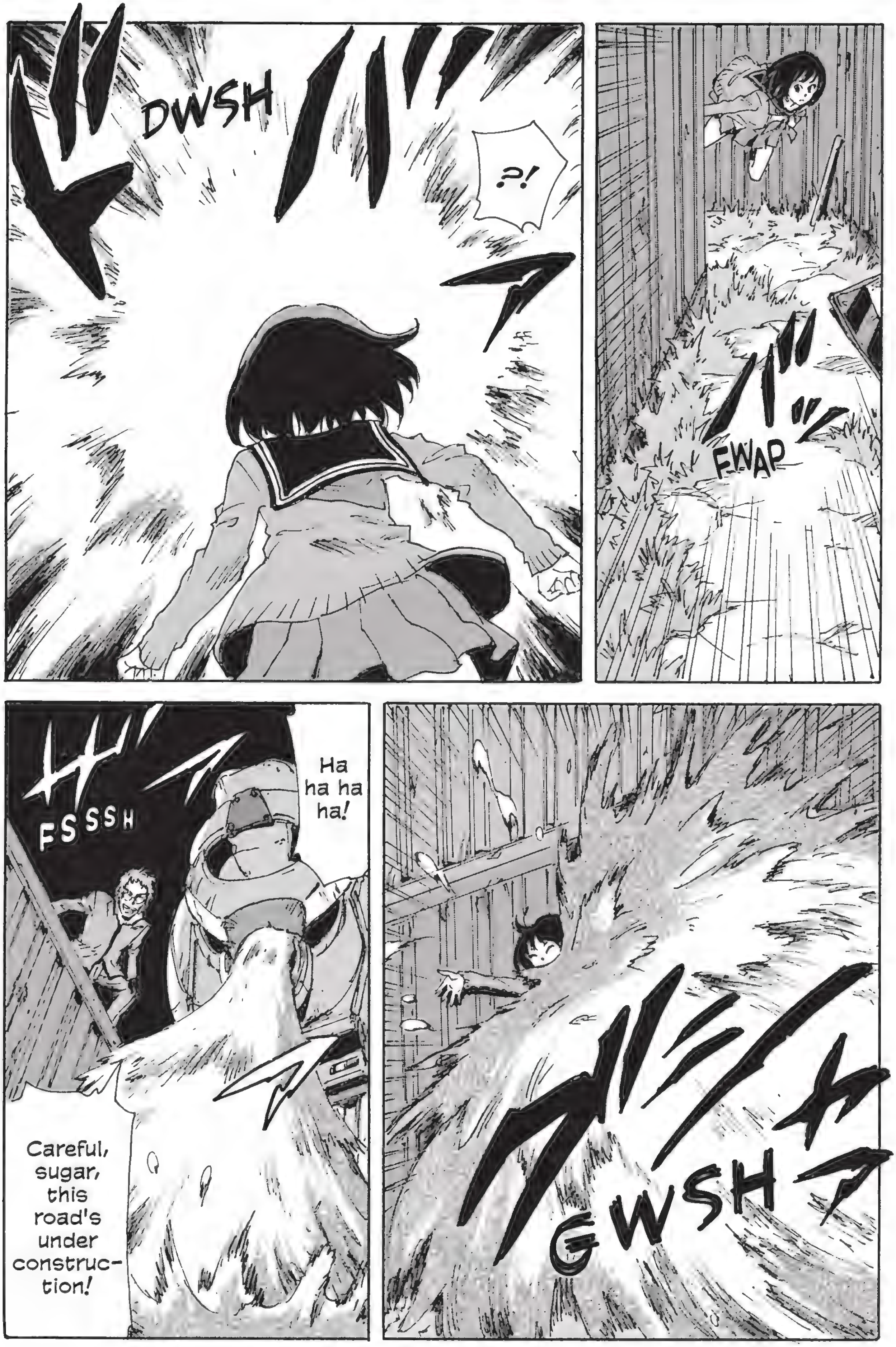

ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
We're venturing into a danger zone, VP...!
What the heck? It's only been maybe twenty minutes since we passed through here, but now we can't follow Tama River back!
ピ
What?!
ザワ MURMUR
We can't follow this road?
RESCUE
ザワ MURMUR
How are we gonna get to Haneda, then?!

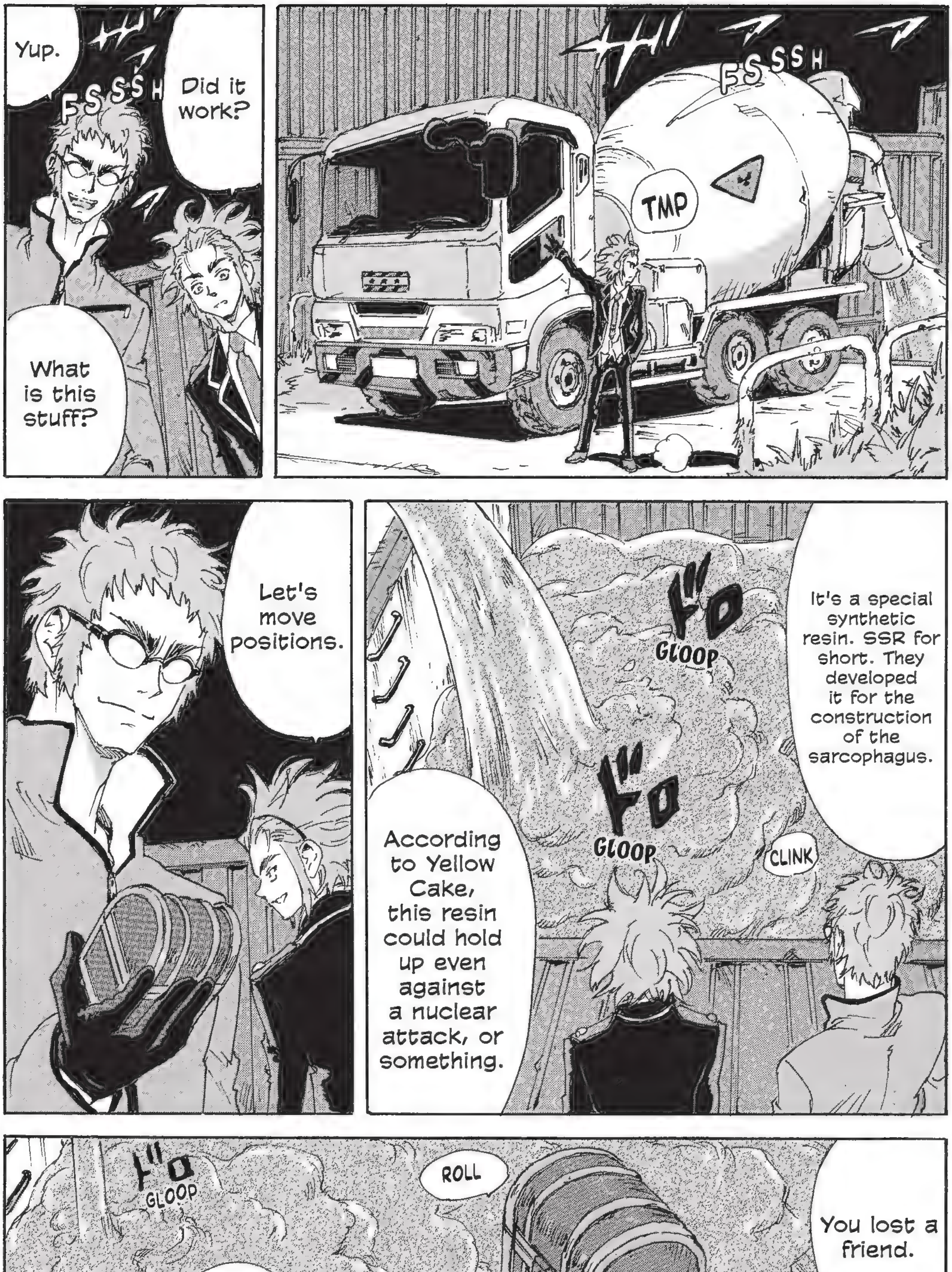

Guess this proves that the Daiba sarcophagus really has opened back up.
That means we won't be able to detour north!
We'll march south, then.
We can approach the sea from the other side of Tama River.
BEEP
HANEDA AIRPORT
TAMA RIVER
KAWASAKI
GENRYU
Everyone across the bridge! Hurry!
CLAMOR
What?
But that will take us into Kawasaki!
CLAMOR
How much longer do we have to walk?!

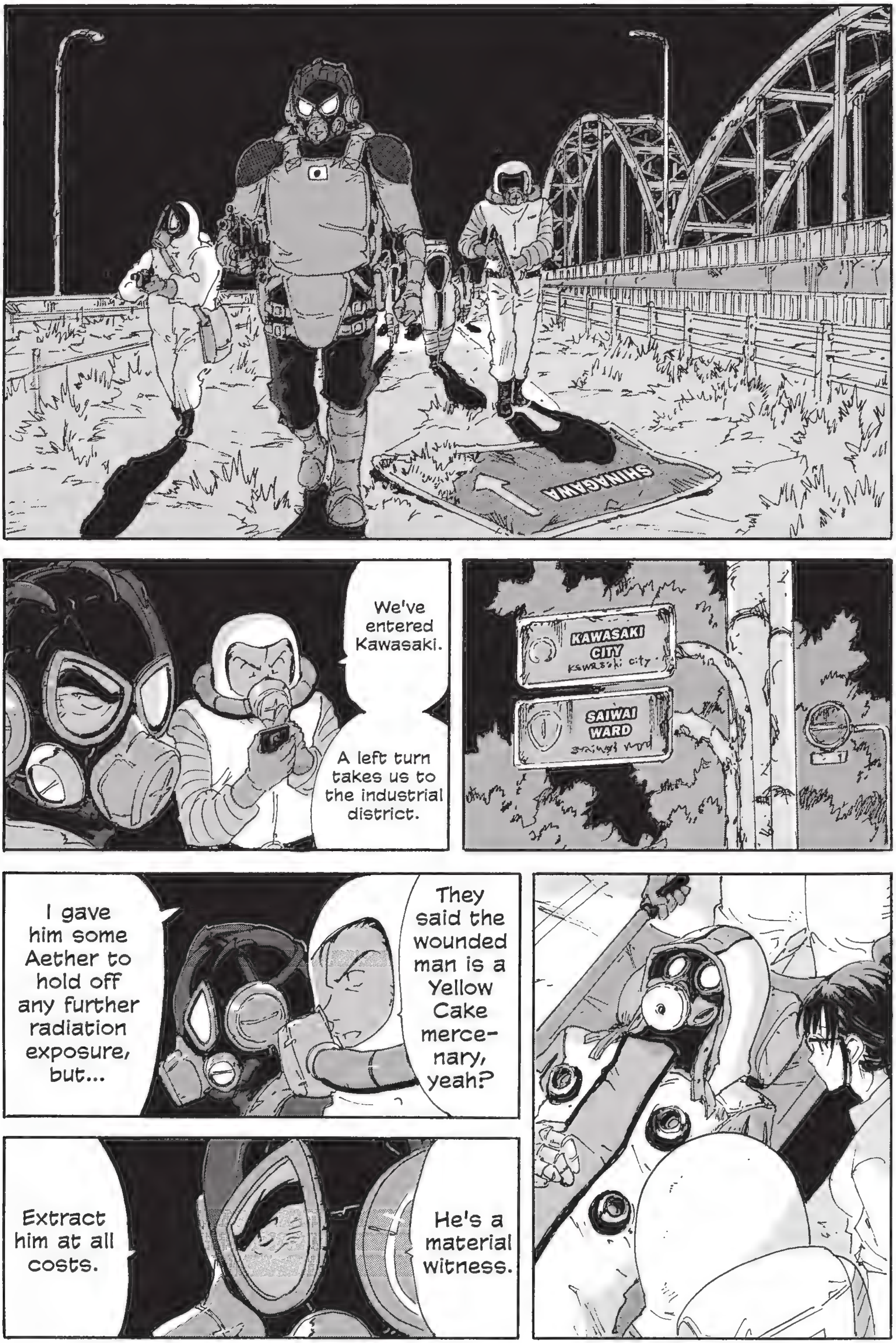

VROOOOOM
How's it look, Kanon?!
Have you spotted the Mizoguchi brothers?!
We're late to the party!
?!
ボッグァ
BOOM

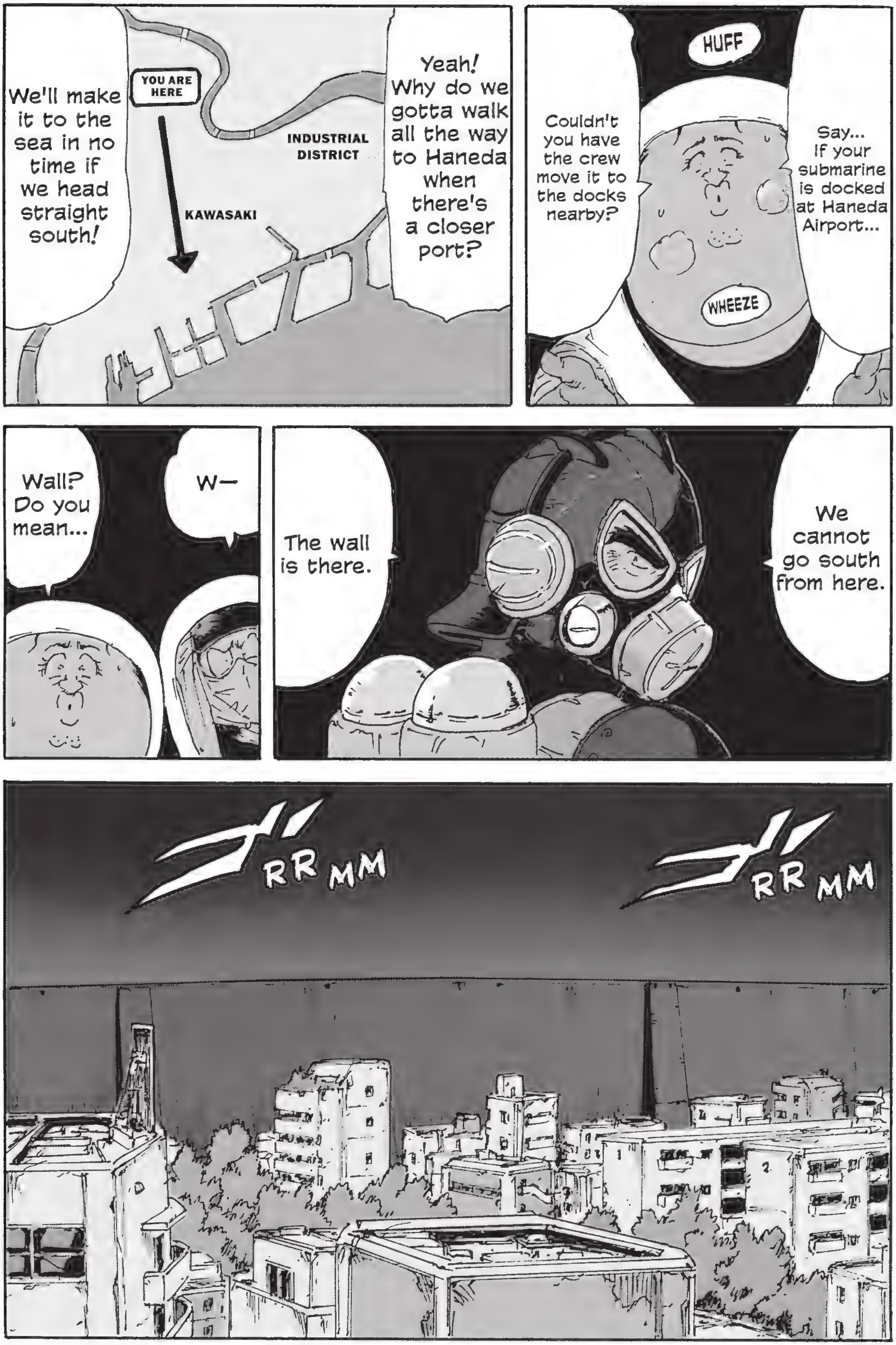

FWOOOM
ズダドド
RATATATA
SWOOSH
HWOO

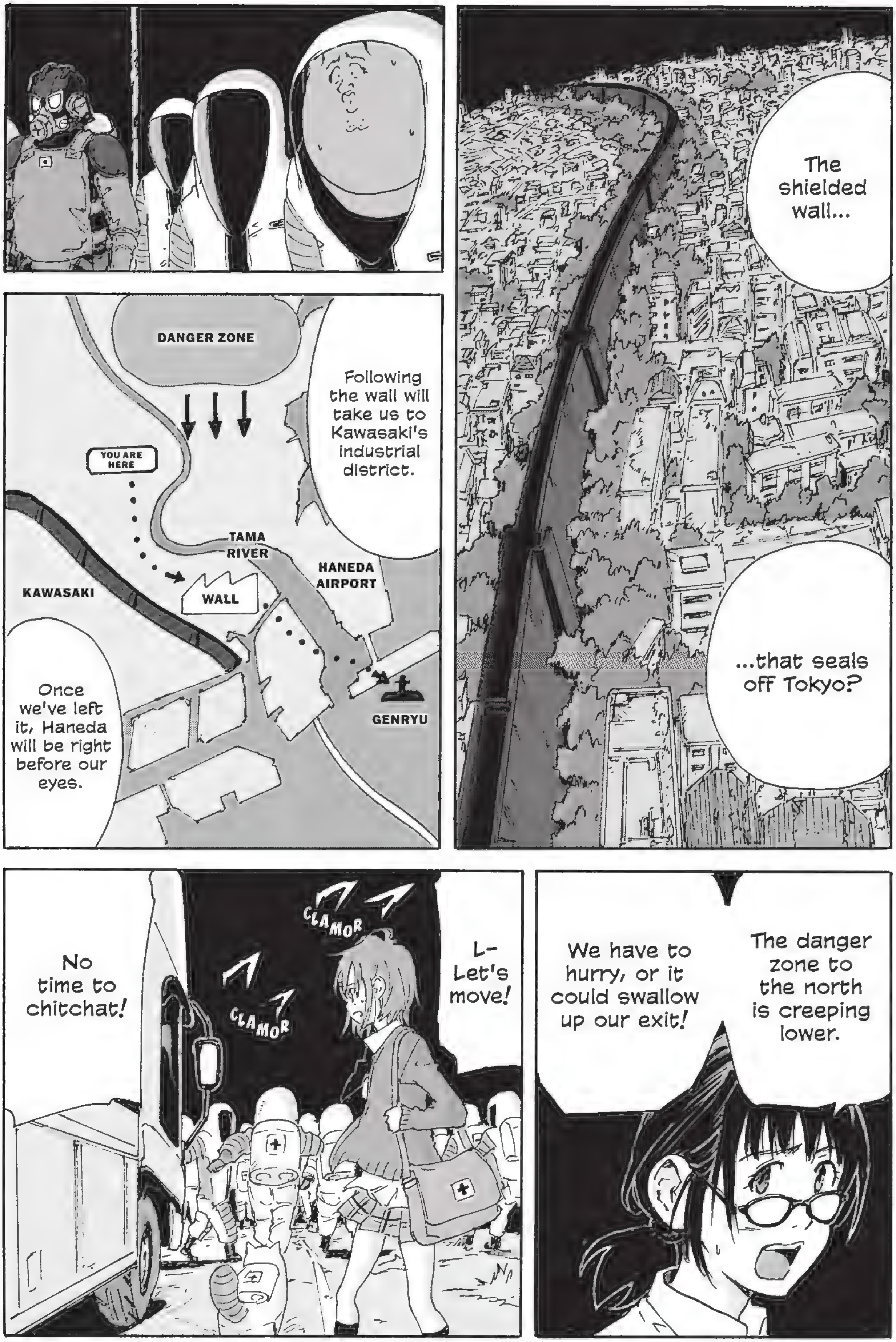

TUMP!!
!
Damn!
I can't fight this monster!
TMP
TMP
SWSH

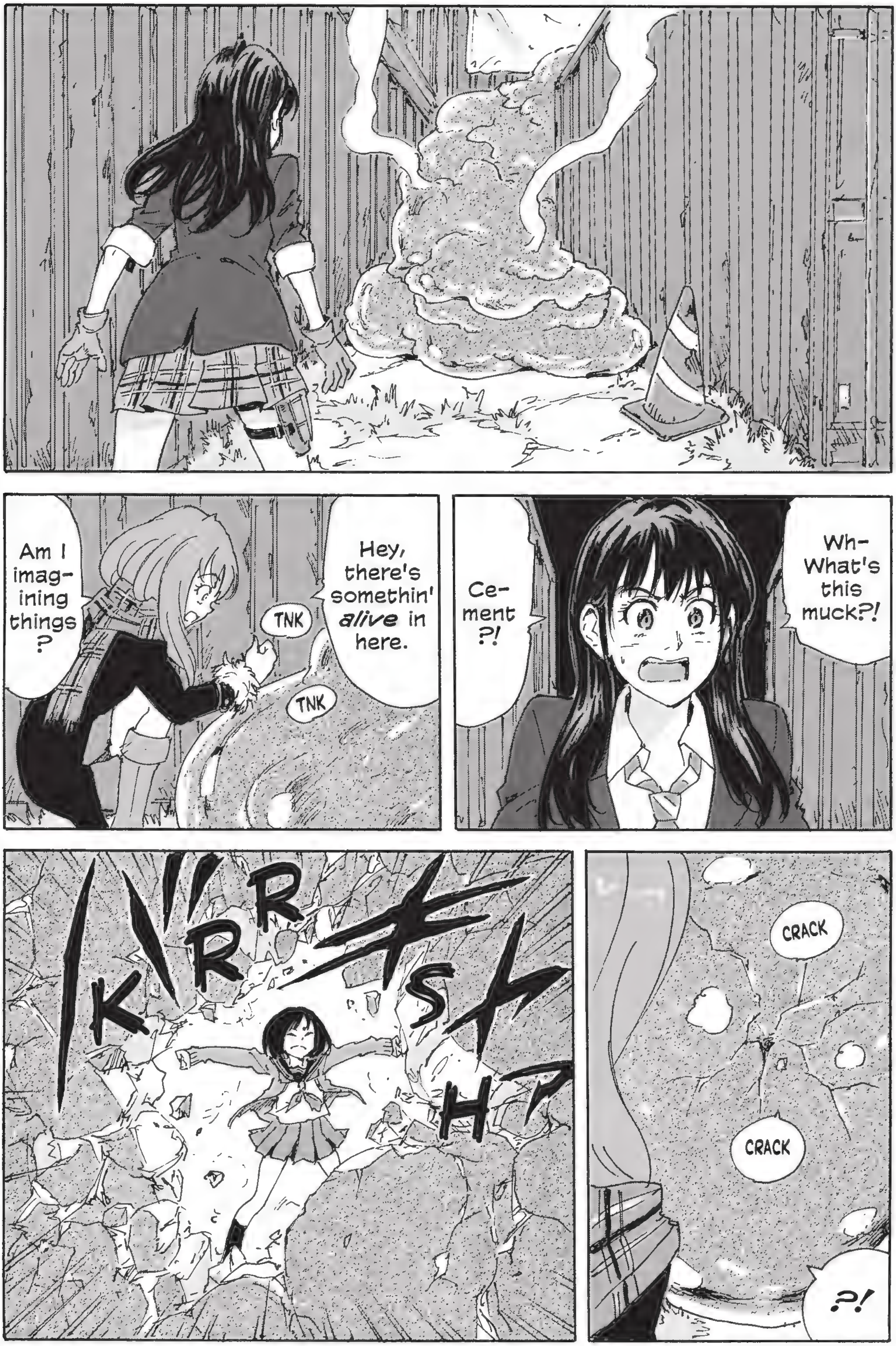

FWAP
DWSH
?!
GWSH
Ha ha ha ha!
FSSSH
Careful, sugar, this road's under construction!

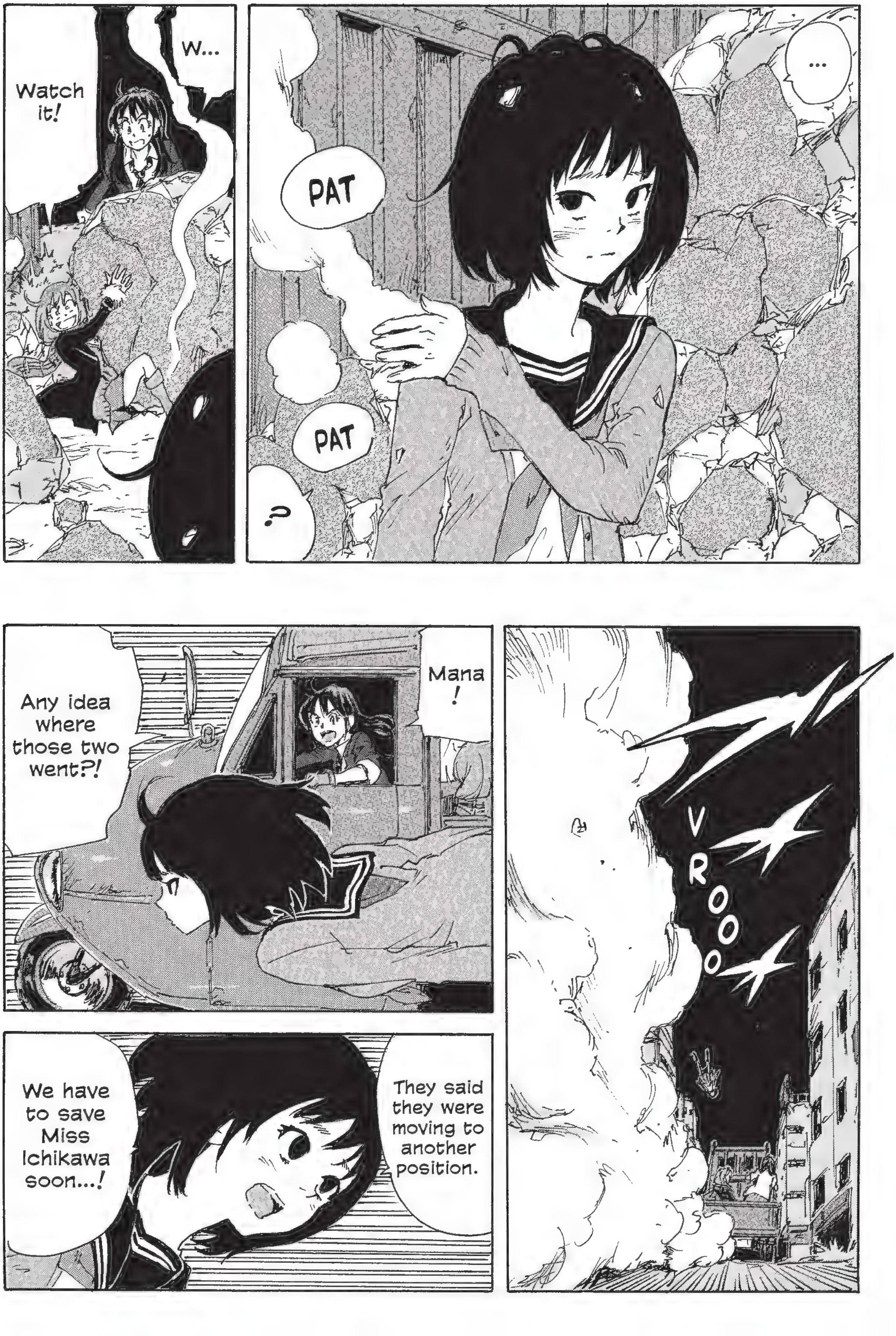

FSSSH
TMP
Did it work?
Yup.
FSSSH
What is this stuff?
It's a special synthetic resin. SSR for short. They developed it for the construction of the sarcophagus.
GLOOP
GLOOP
CLINK
According to Yellow Cake, this resin could hold up even against a nuclear attack, or something.
Let's move positions.
You lost a friend.
ROLL
GLOOP
Ha ha ha!
GLOOP

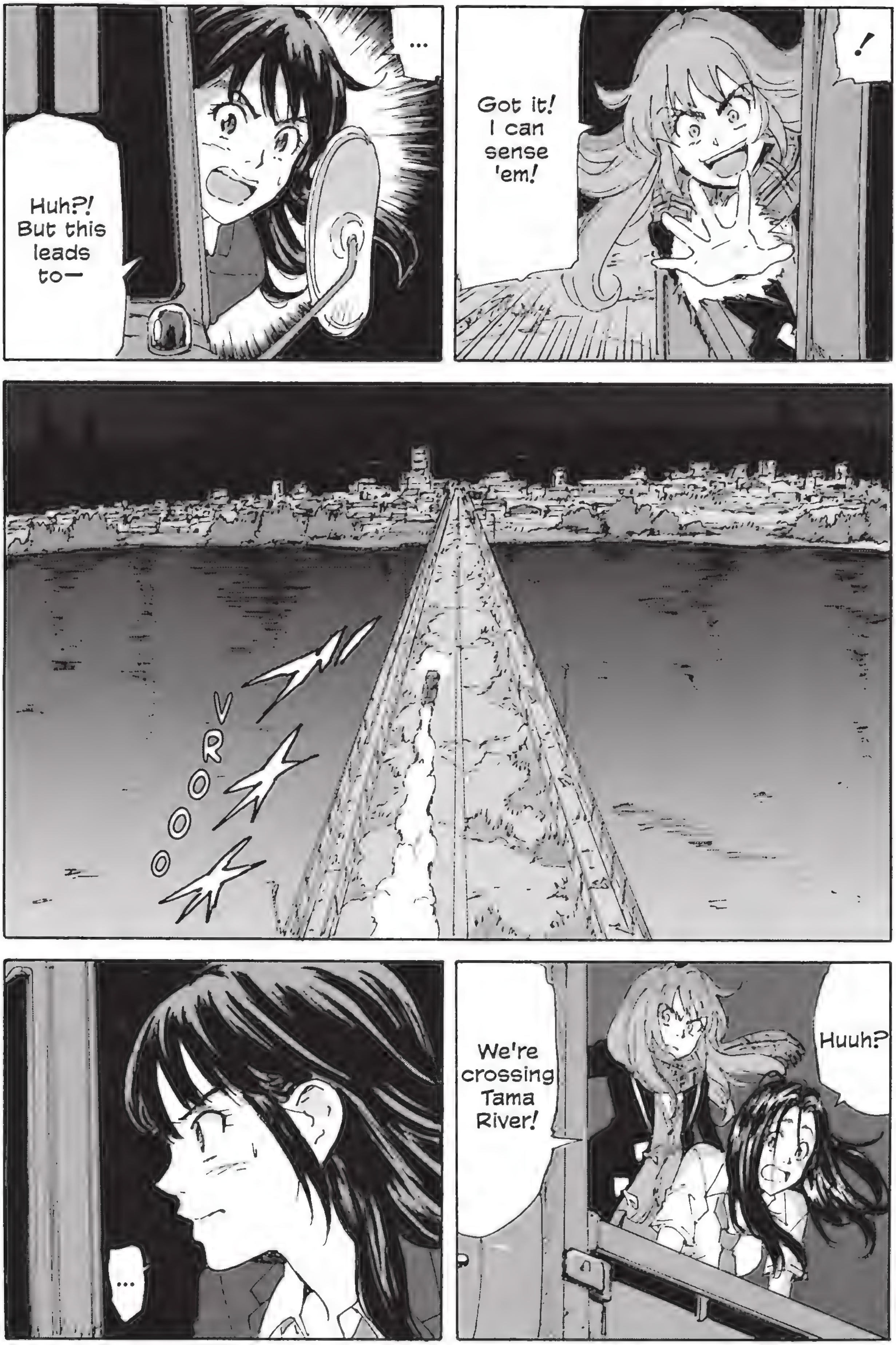

SHINAGAWA
KAWASAKI CITY
kawasaki city
SAIWAI WARD
saiwai ward
We've entered Kawasaki.
A left turn takes us to the industrial district.
They said the wounded man is a Yellow Cake mercenary, yeah?
I gave him some Aether to hold off any further radiation exposure, but...
He's a material witness.
Extract him at all costs.

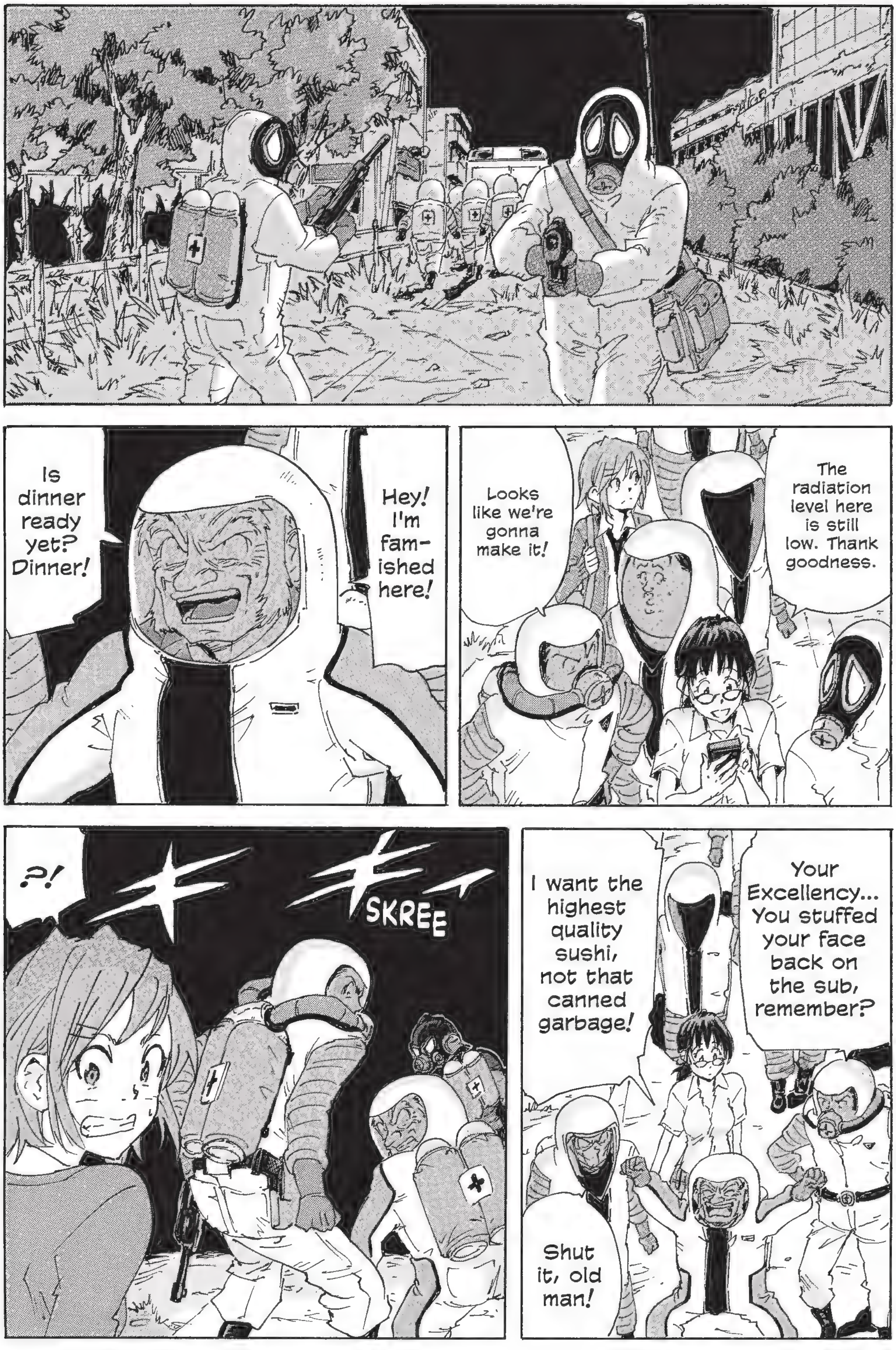

HUFF
Say... If your submarine is docked at Haneda Airport...
Couldn't you have the crew move it to the docks nearby?
WHEEZE
Yeah! Why do we gotta walk all the way to Haneda when there's a closer port?
YOU ARE HERE
INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT
KAWASAKI
We'll make it to the sea in no time if we head straight south!
We cannot go south from here.
The wall is there.
W—
Wall? Do you mean...
RRMM
RRMM

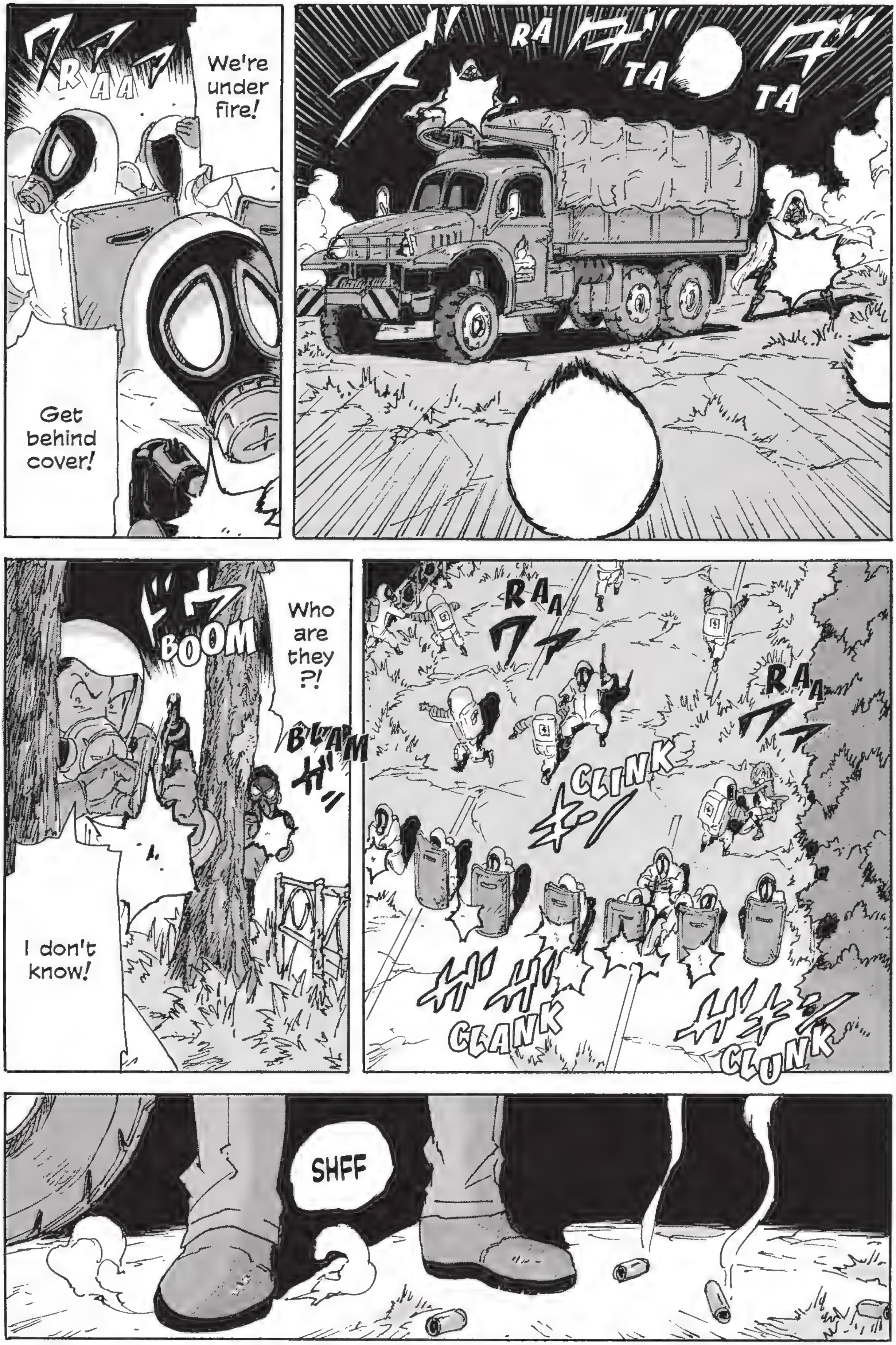

The shielded wall...
...that seals off Tokyo?
Following the wall will take us to Kawasaki's industrial district.
DANGER ZONE
YOU ARE HERE
TAMA RIVER
HANEDA AIRPORT
KAWASAKI
WALL
GENRYU
Once we've left it, Haneda will be right before our eyes.
The danger zone to the north is creeping lower.
We have to hurry, or it could swallow up our exit!
L-Let's move!
CLAMOR
CLAMOR
No time to chitchat!

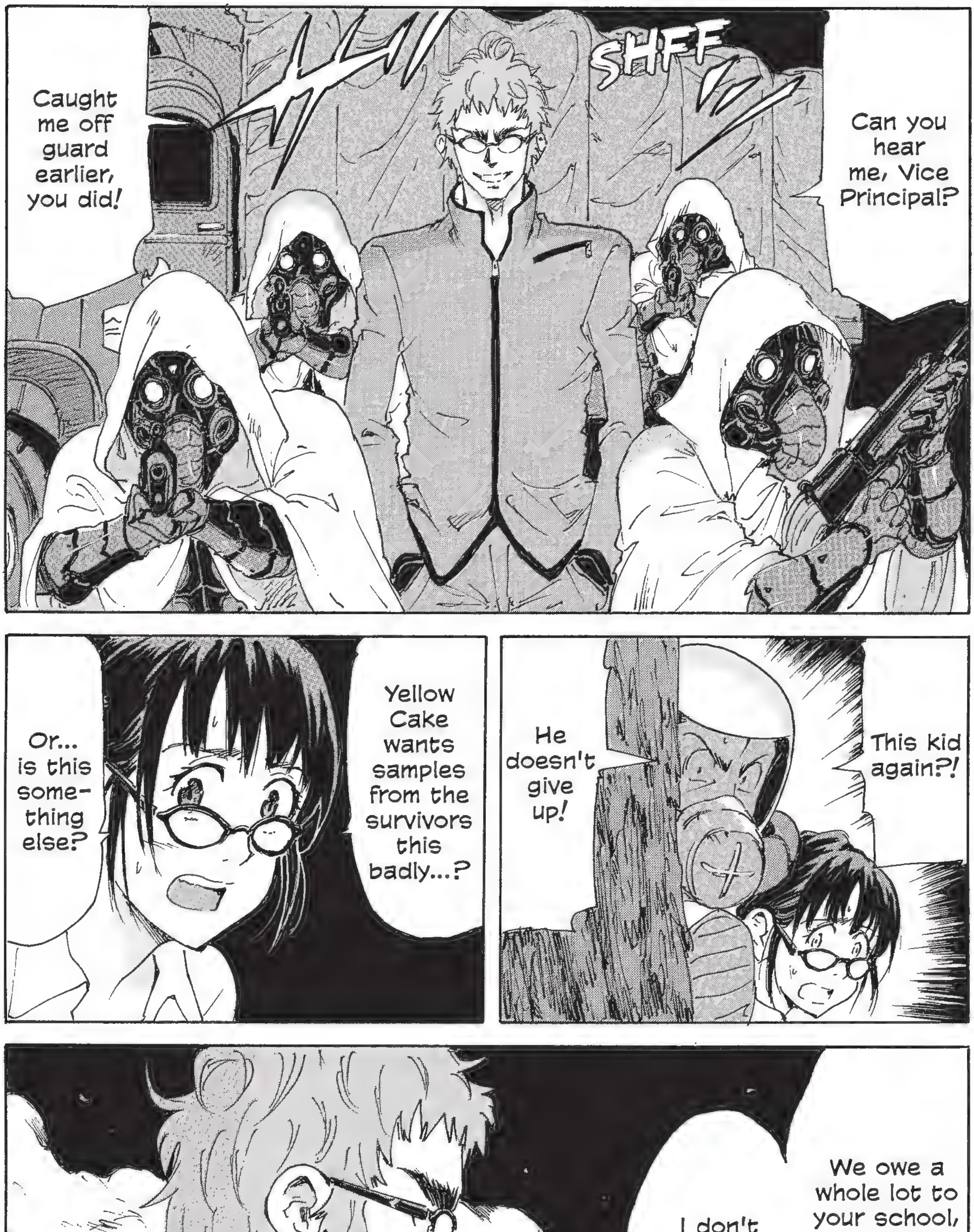

Wh- What's this muck?!
Ce- ment?!
Hey, there's somethin' *alive* in here.
TNK
TNK
Am I imagining things?
CRACK
CRACK
?!
KRRRSHH

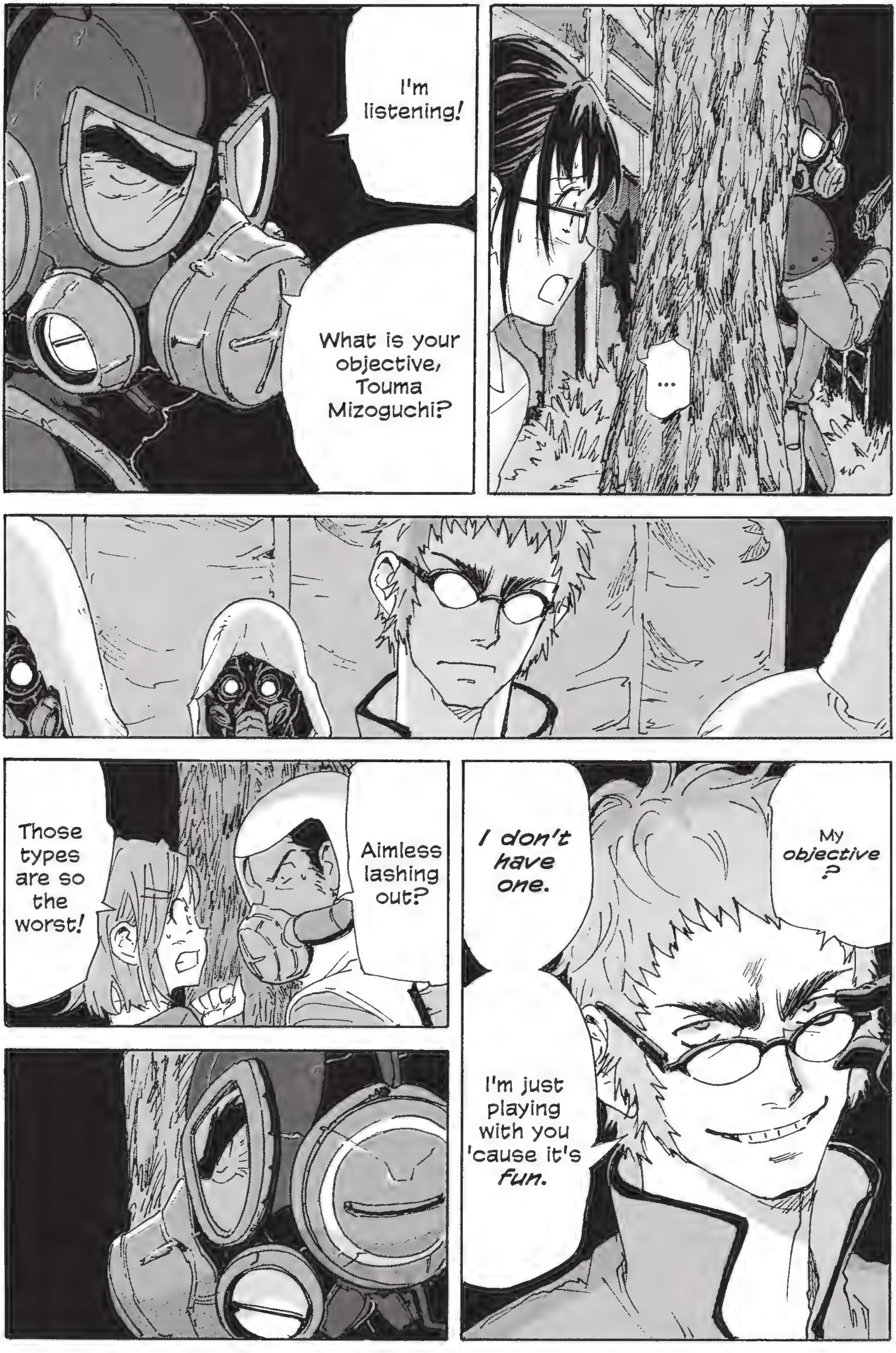

...
PAT
PAT
?
W...
Watch it!
VROOO
Mana!
Any idea where those two went?!
They said they were moving to another position.
We have to save Miss Ichikawa soon...!

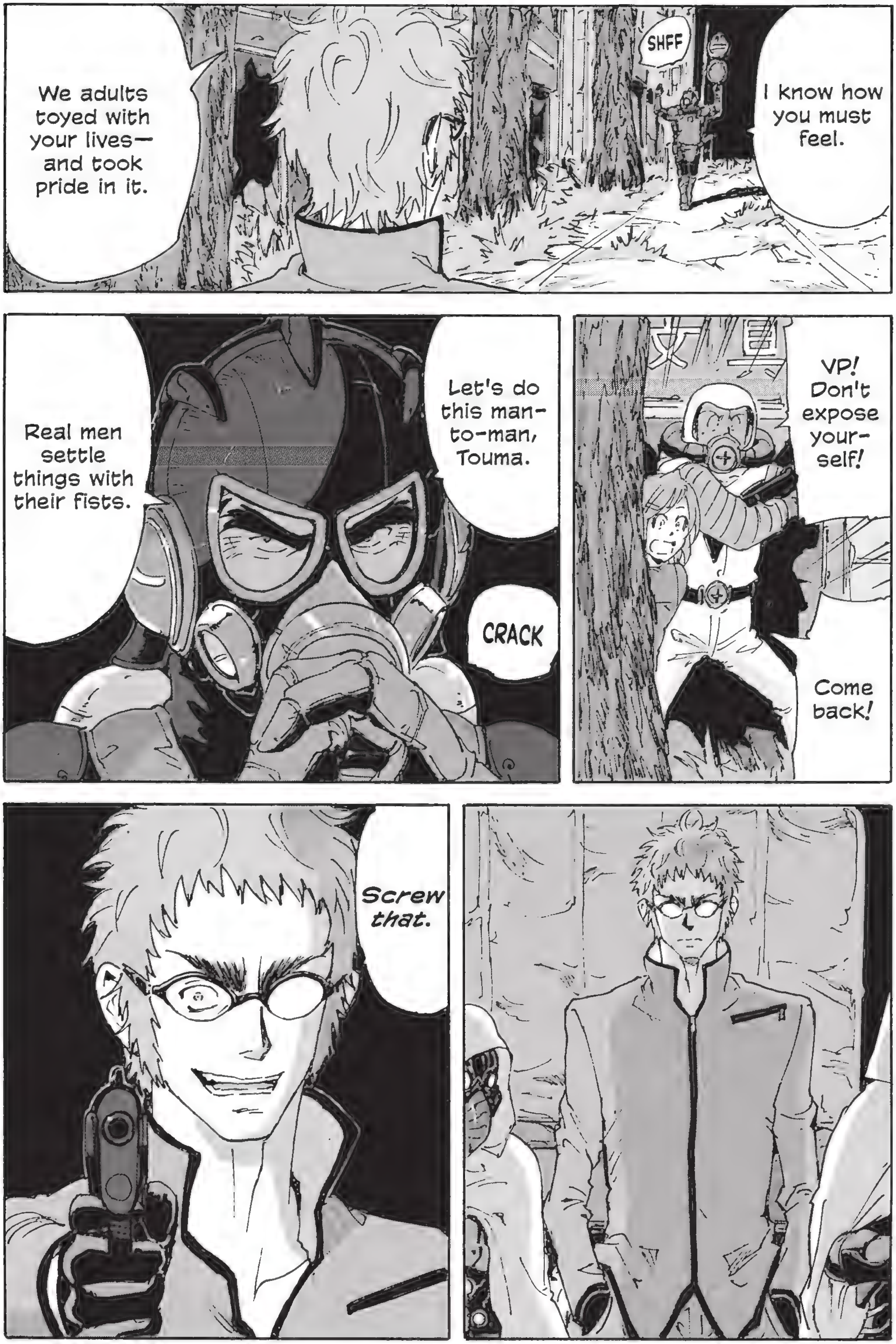

!
Got it! I can sense 'em!
...
Huh?! But this leads to—
VROOOO
Huuh?
We're crossing Tama River!
...

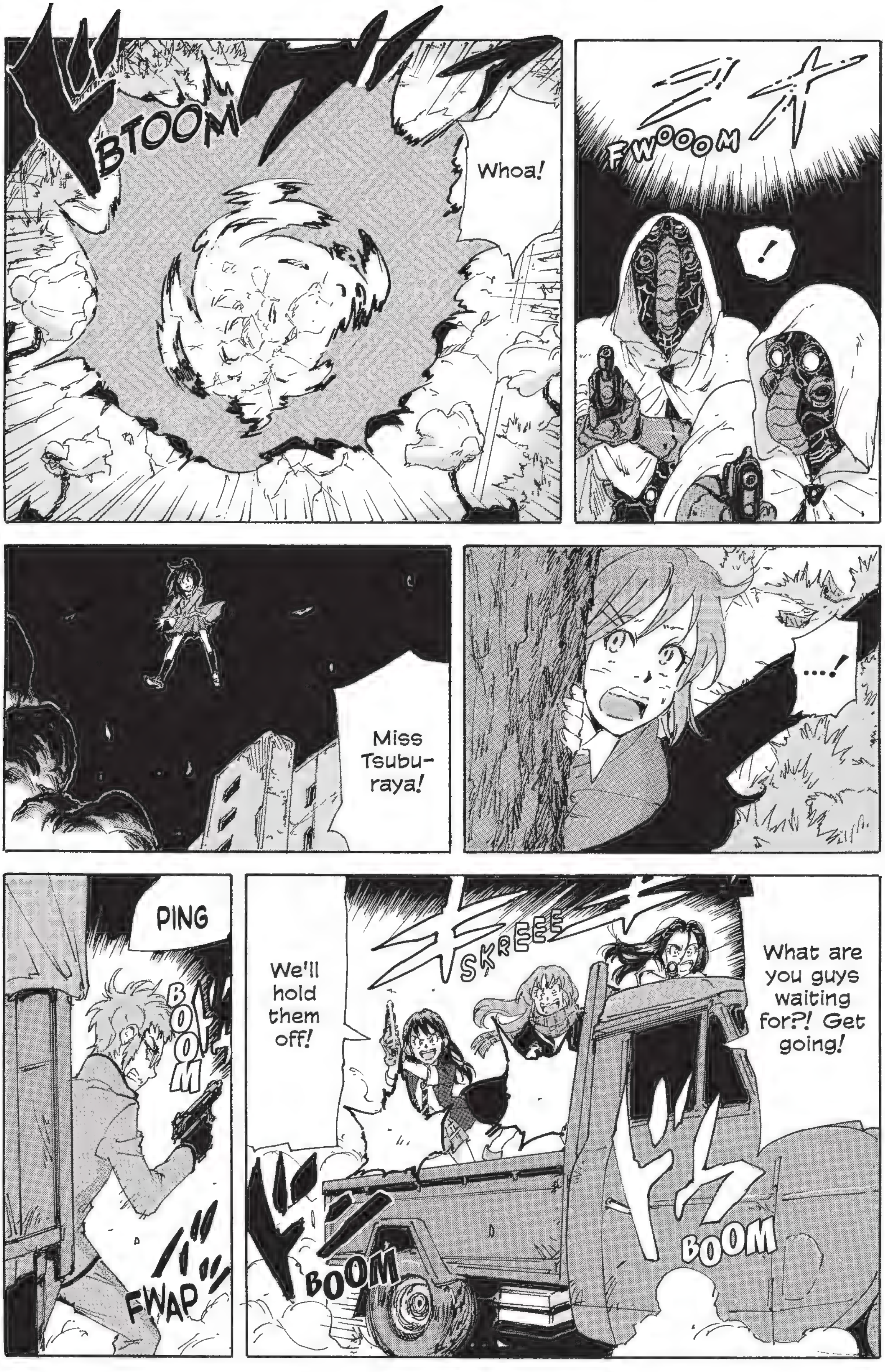

The radiation level here is still low. Thank goodness.
Looks like we're gonna make it!
Hey! I'm famished here!
Is dinner ready yet? Dinner!
Your Excellency... You stuffed your face back on the sub, remember?
I want the highest quality sushi, not that canned garbage!
Shut it, old man!
?!
SKREE

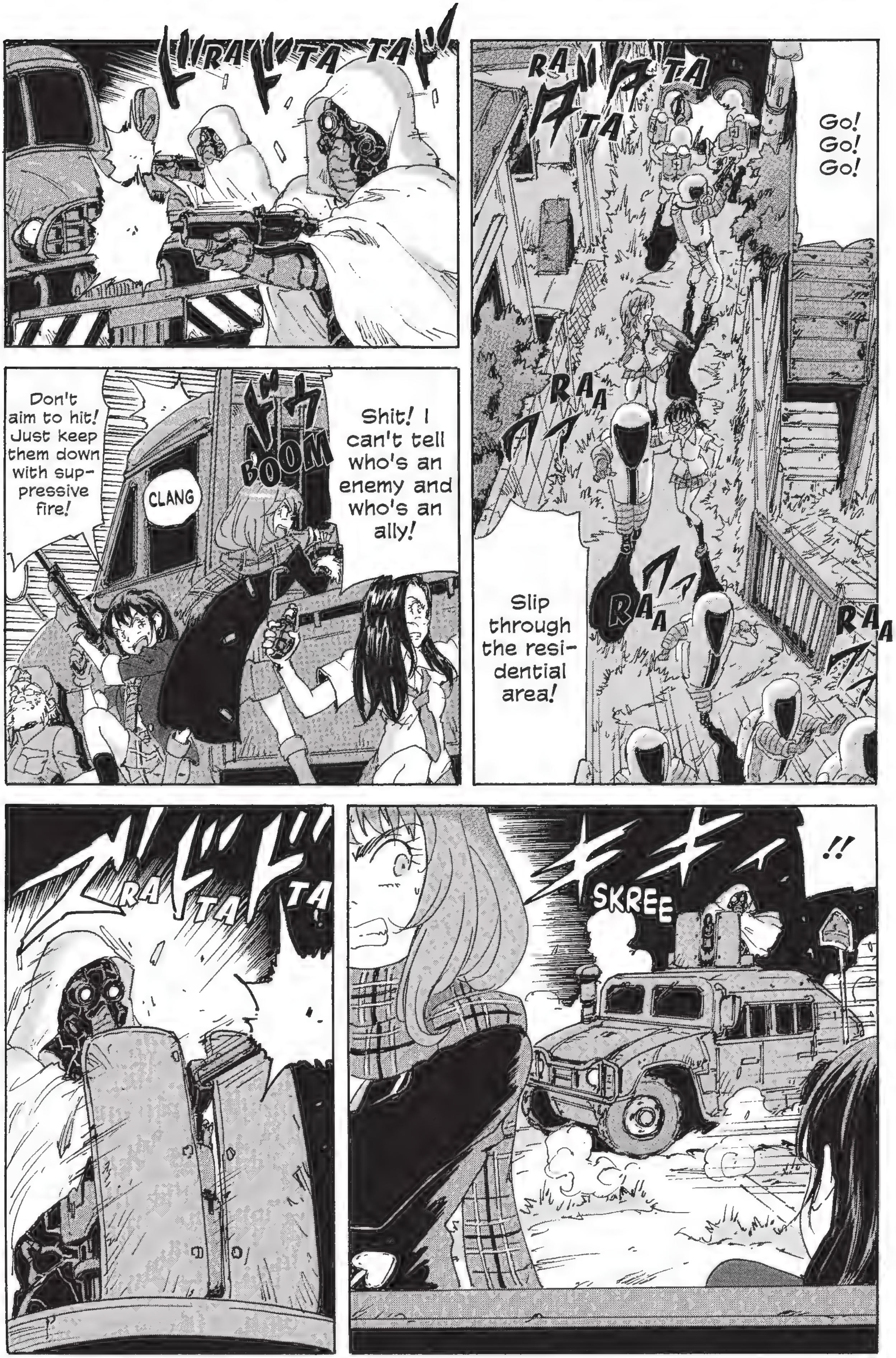

ズ
RA
ダ
TA
ダ
TA
ワァァ
RAAA
We're under fire!
Get behind cover!
ワァ
RAA
ワァ
RAA
キーン
CLINK
ガ ガ
CLANK
ガキン
CLUNK
ドウ
BOOM
Who are they?!
ガッ
BLAM
I don't know!
SHFF

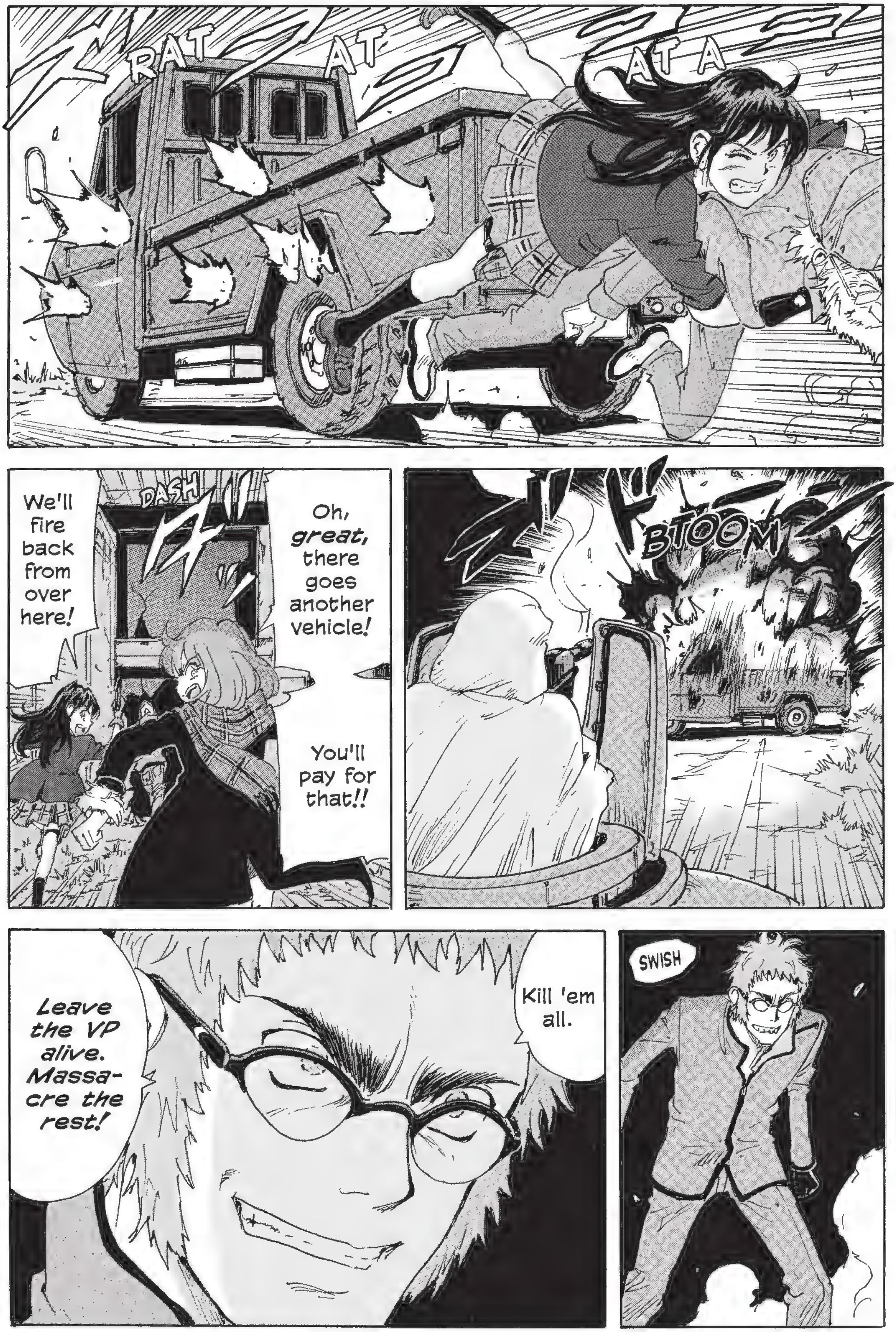

Can you hear me, Vice Principal?
SHFF
Caught me off guard earlier, you did!
This kid again?!
He doesn't give up!
Yellow Cake wants samples from the survivors this badly...?
Or... is this some-thing else?
We owe a whole lot to your school, VP.
I don't recall ever thanking you for that!

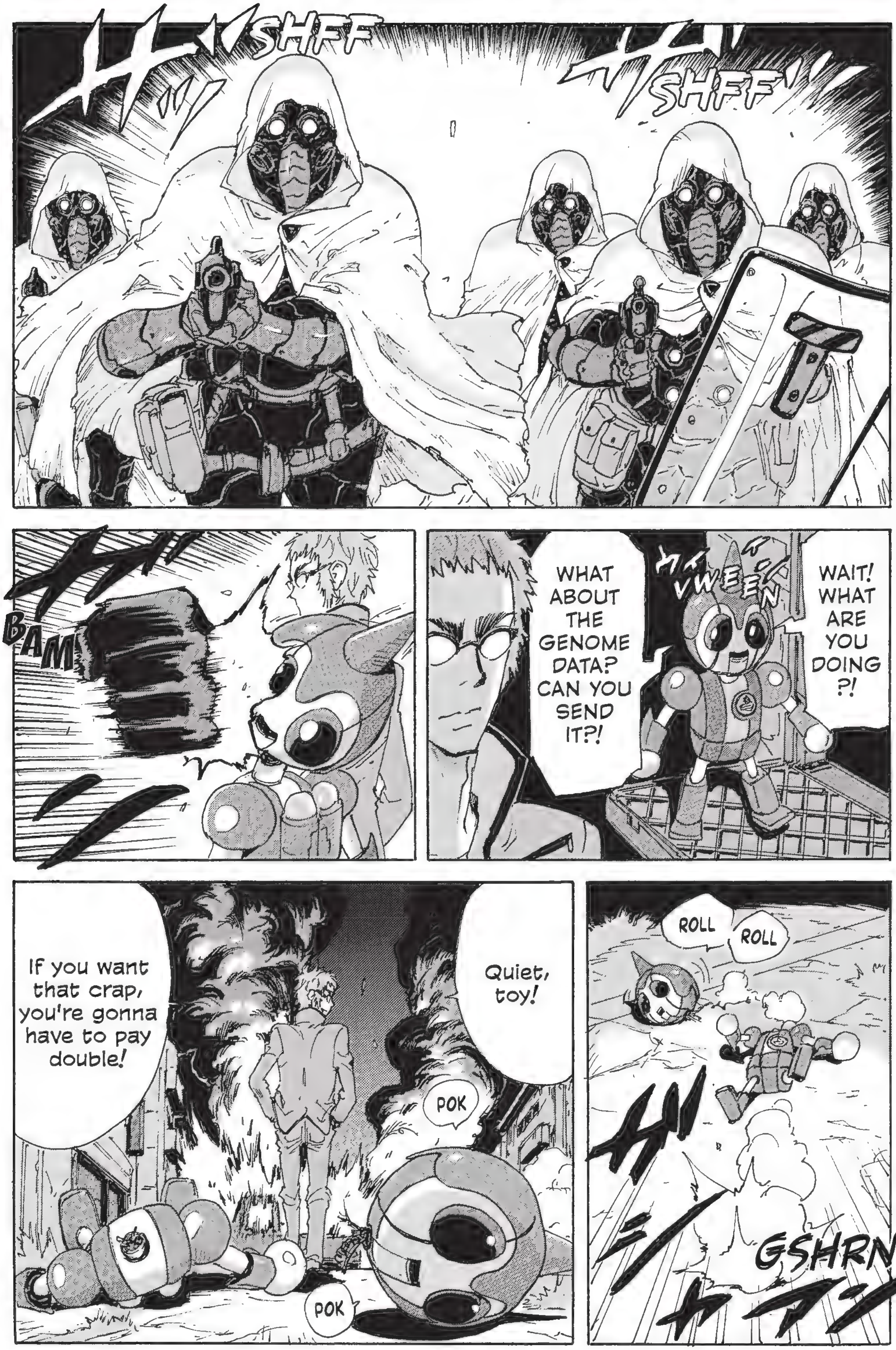

...
I'm listening!
What is your objective, Touma Mizoguchi?
My *objective*?
I don't have one.
I'm just playing with you 'cause it's *fun*.
Aimless lashing out?
Those types are so the worst!

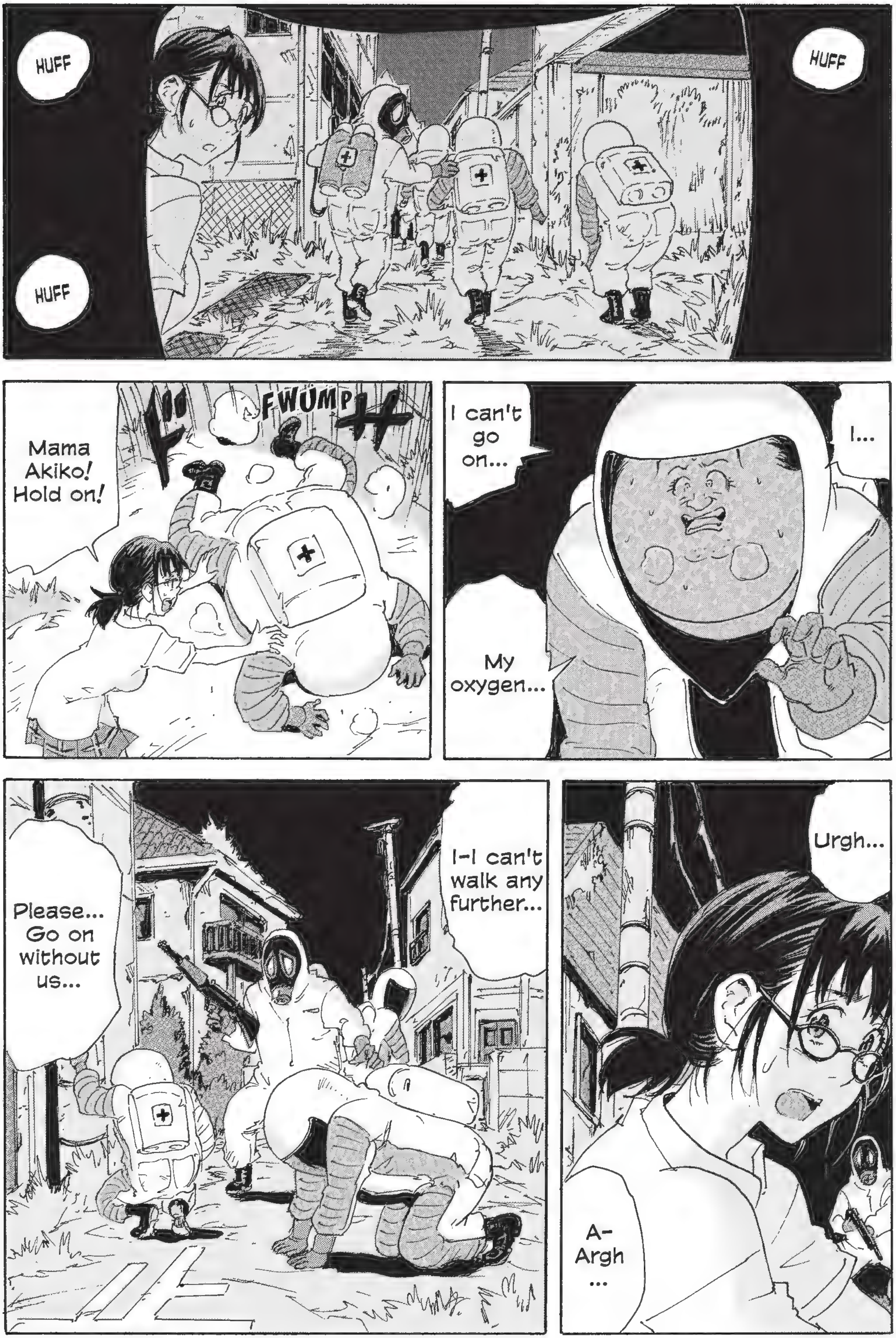

I know how you must feel.
SHFF
We adults toyed with your lives—and took pride in it.
VP! Don't expose yourself!
Come back!
Let's do this man-to-man, Touma.
CRACK
Real men settle things with their fists.
Screw that.

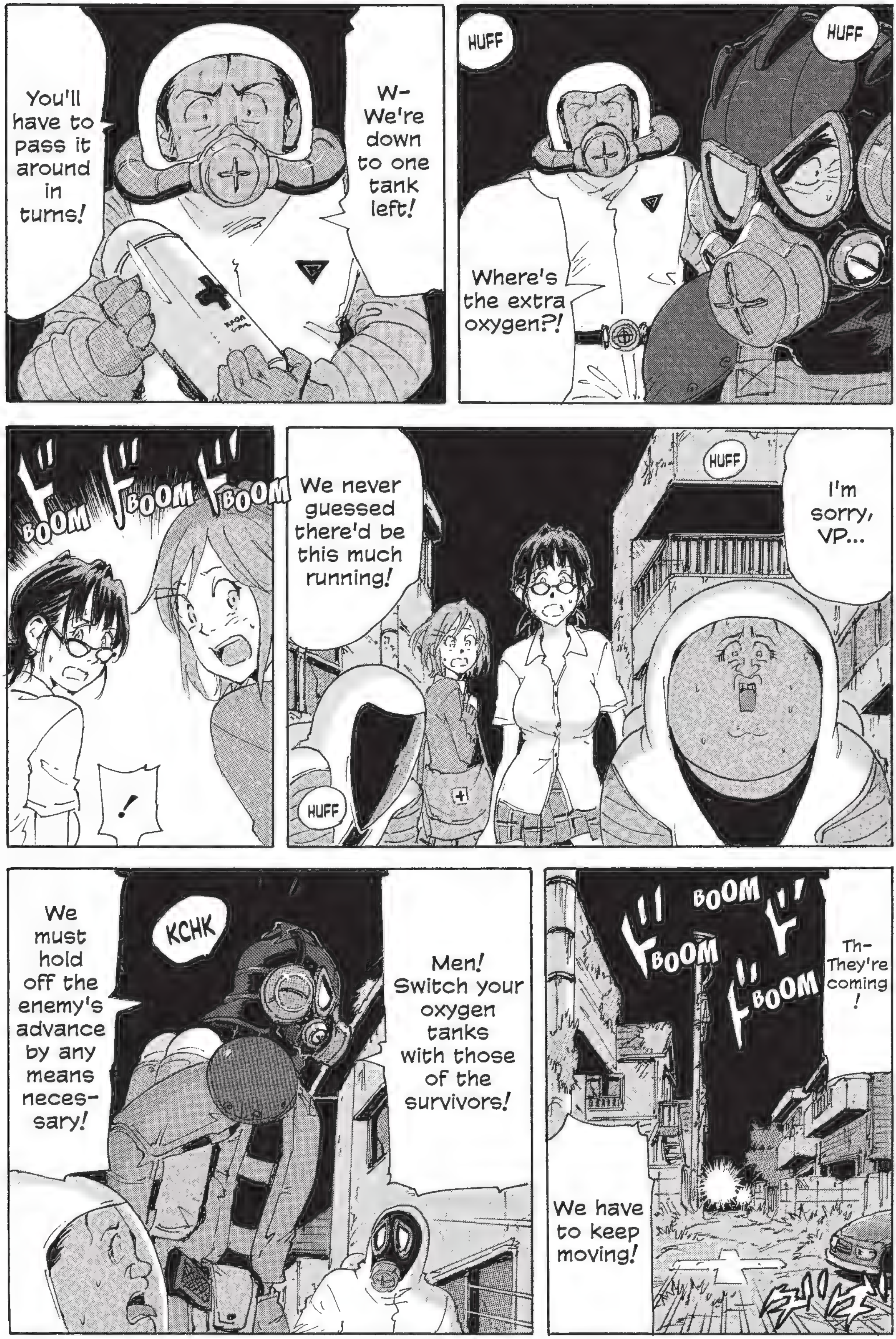

FWOOOM
!
BTOOM
Whoa!
...!
Miss Tsuburaya!
What are you guys waiting for?! Get going!
SKREEEE
We'll hold them off!
BOOM
BOOM
PING
BOOM
FWAP

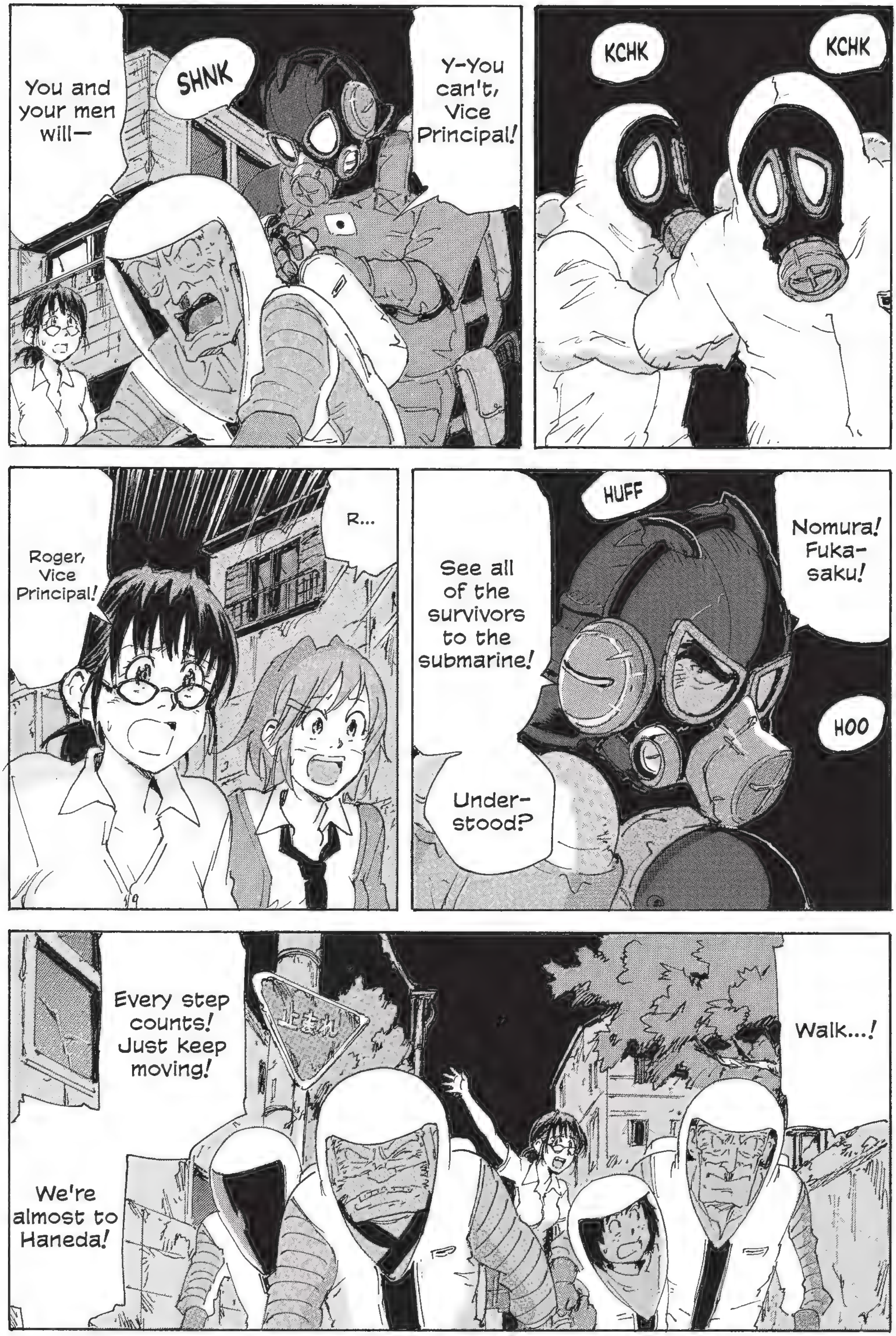

RA TA TA TA
Go! Go! Go!
RAA
Slip through the residential area!
RAA
RAA
RA TA TA TA
Shit! I can't tell who's an enemy and who's an ally!
BOOM
CLANG
Don't aim to hit! Just keep them down with suppressive fire!
!!
SKREE
RA TA TA TA

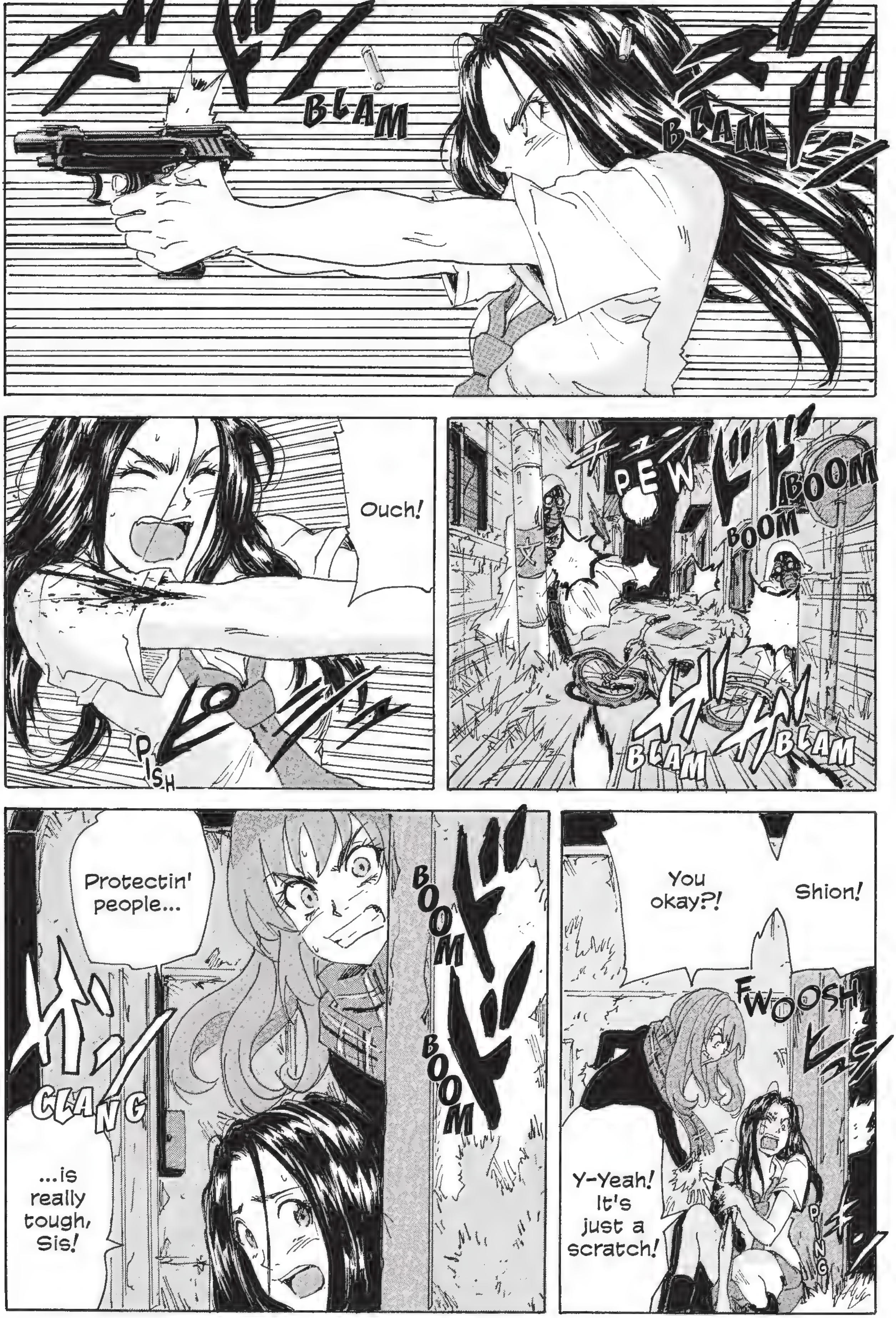

RAT AT AT A
BTOOM
DASH
Oh, great, there goes another vehicle!
You'll pay for that!!
We'll fire back from over here!
SWISH
Kill 'em all.
Leave the VP alive. Massacre the rest!

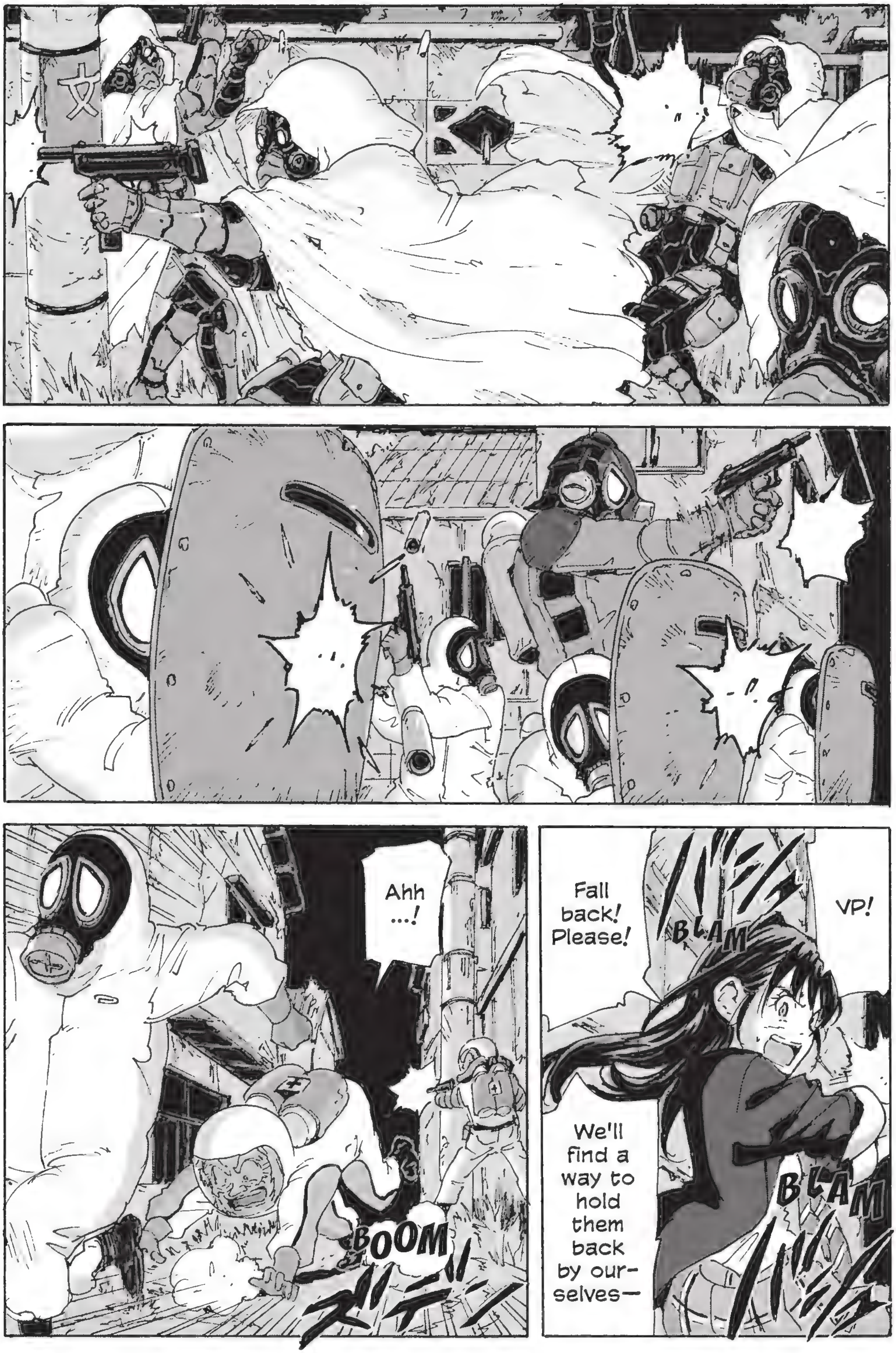

SHFF
SHFF
WAIT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
VWEEN
WHAT ABOUT THE GENOME DATA? CAN YOU SEND IT?!
BAM
ROLL
ROLL
GSHRN
Quiet, toy!
If you want that crap, you're gonna have to pay double!
POK
POK

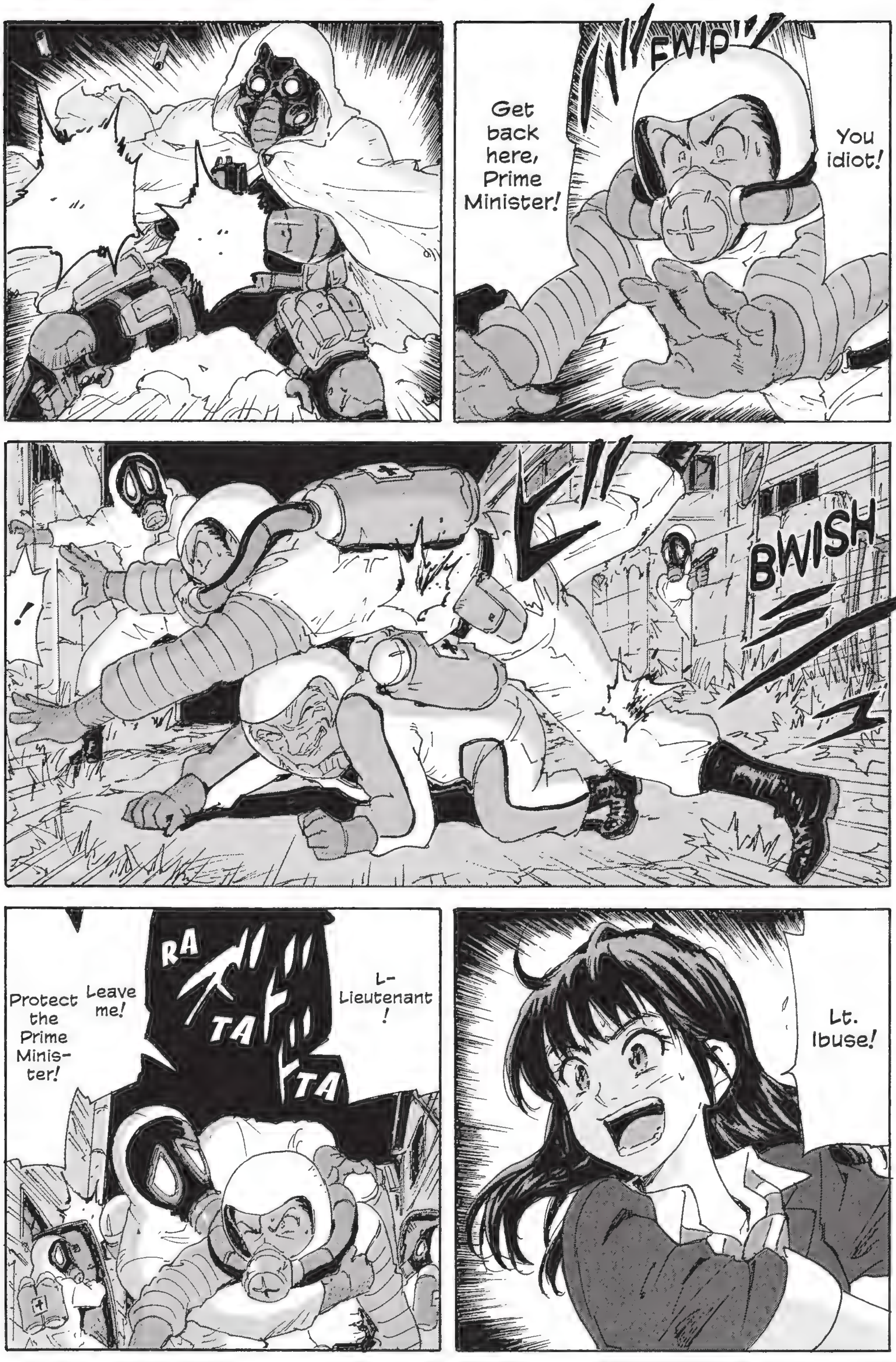

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
FWUMP
Mama Akiko! Hold on!
I can't go on...
I...
My oxygen...
Please... Go on without us...
I-I can't walk any further...
Urgh...
A-Argh ...

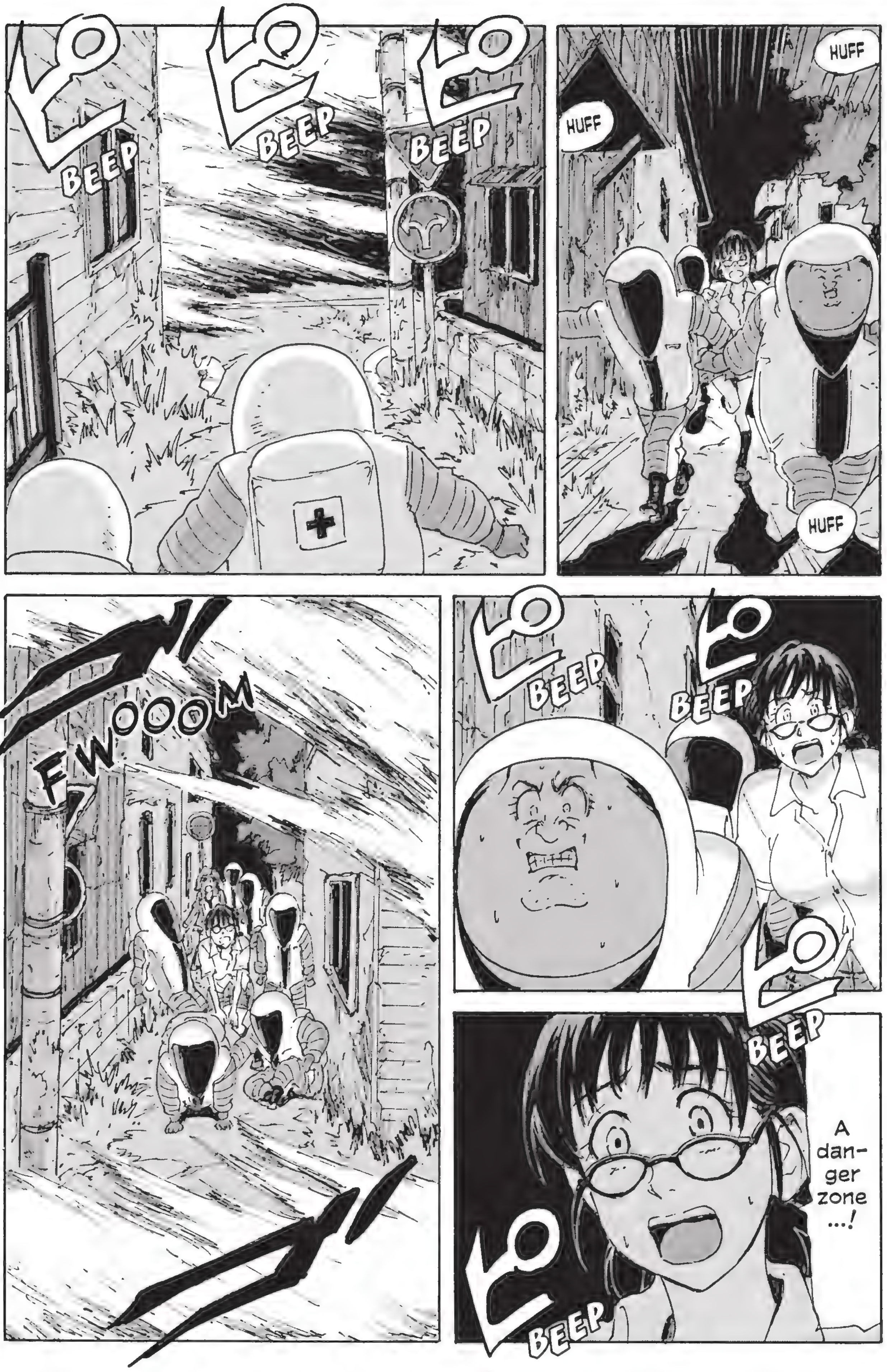

HUFF
HUFF
Where's the extra oxygen?!
W- We're down to one tank left!
You'll have to pass it around in turns!
HUFF
I'm sorry, VP...
We never guessed there'd be this much running!
HUFF
BOOM BOOM BOOM
!
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
Th- They're coming!
We have to keep moving!
Men! Switch your oxygen tanks with those of the survivors!
KCHK
We must hold off the enemy's advance by any means neces-sary!

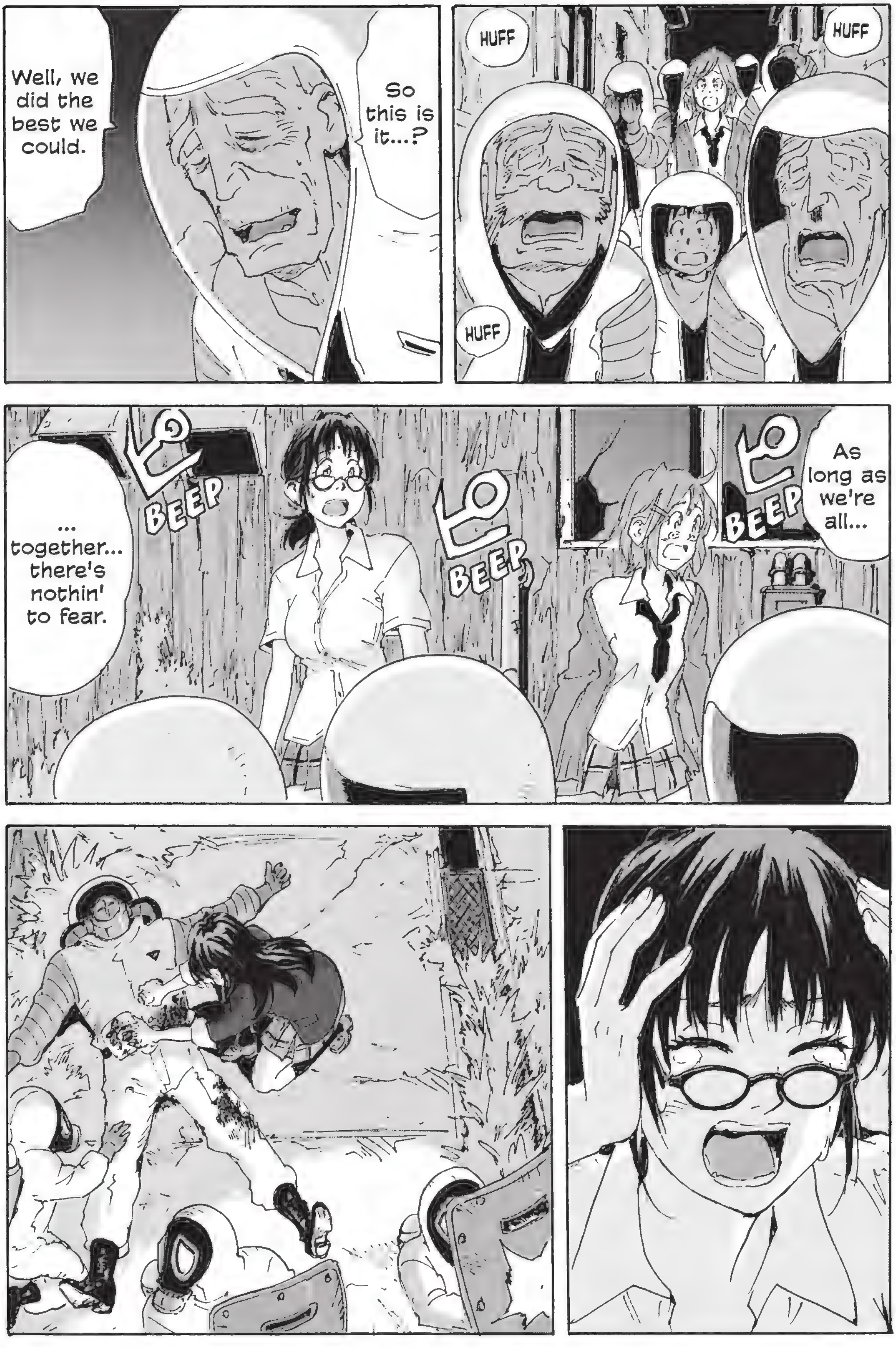

KCHK
KCHK
Y-You can't, Vice Principal!
SHNK
You and your men will—
Nomura! Fuka-saku!
HUFF
See all of the survivors to the submarine!
HOO
Under-stood?
R...
Roger, Vice Principal!
Walk...!
止まれ
Every step counts! Just keep moving!
We're almost to Haneda!

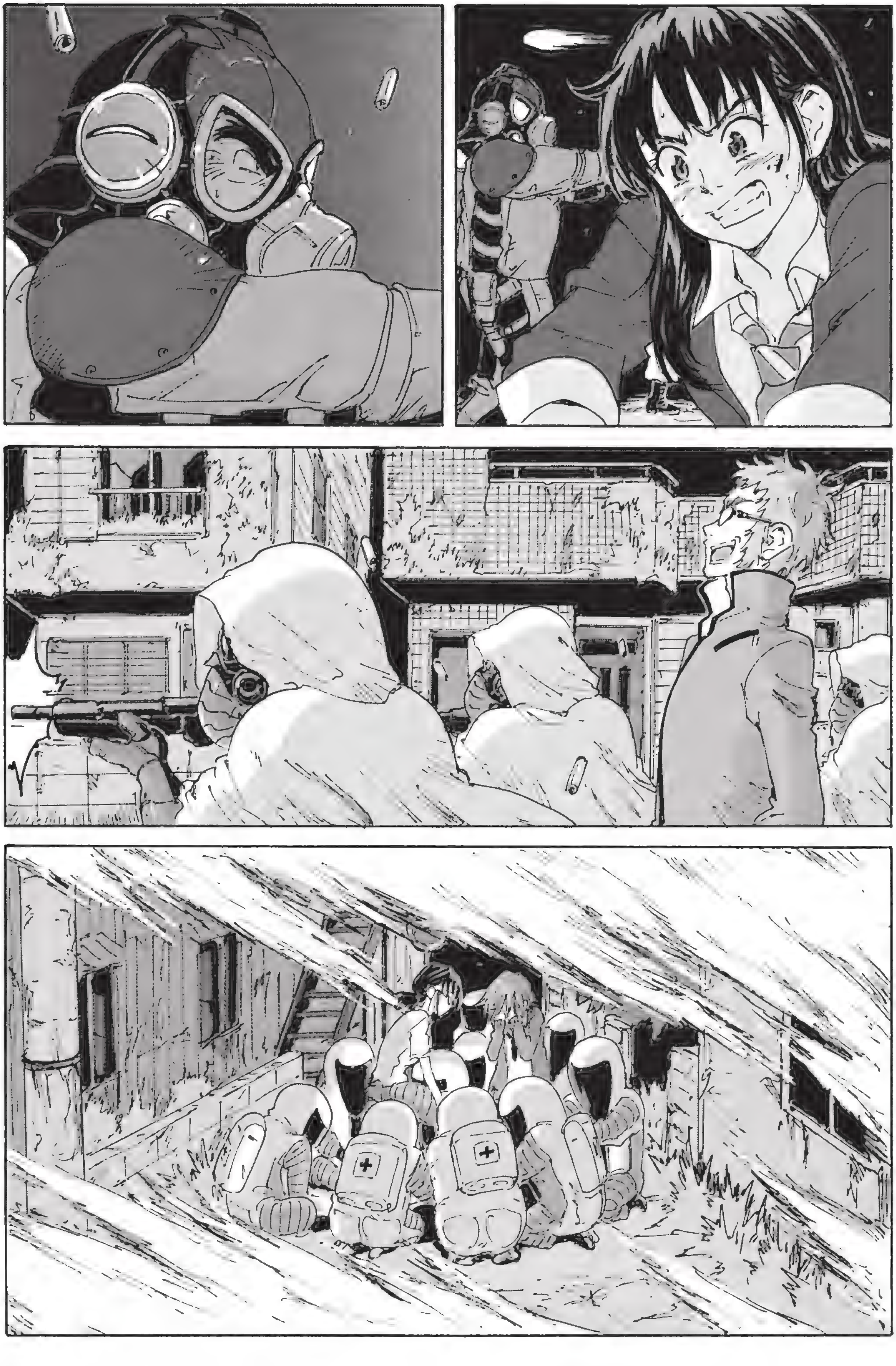

BLAM
BLAM
PEW
BOOM
BOOM
BLAM
BLAM
Ouch!
PISH
Shion!
You okay?!
FWOOSH
Y-Yeah! It's just a scratch!
PING
BOOM
BOOM
Protectin' people...
...is really tough, Sis!
CLANG

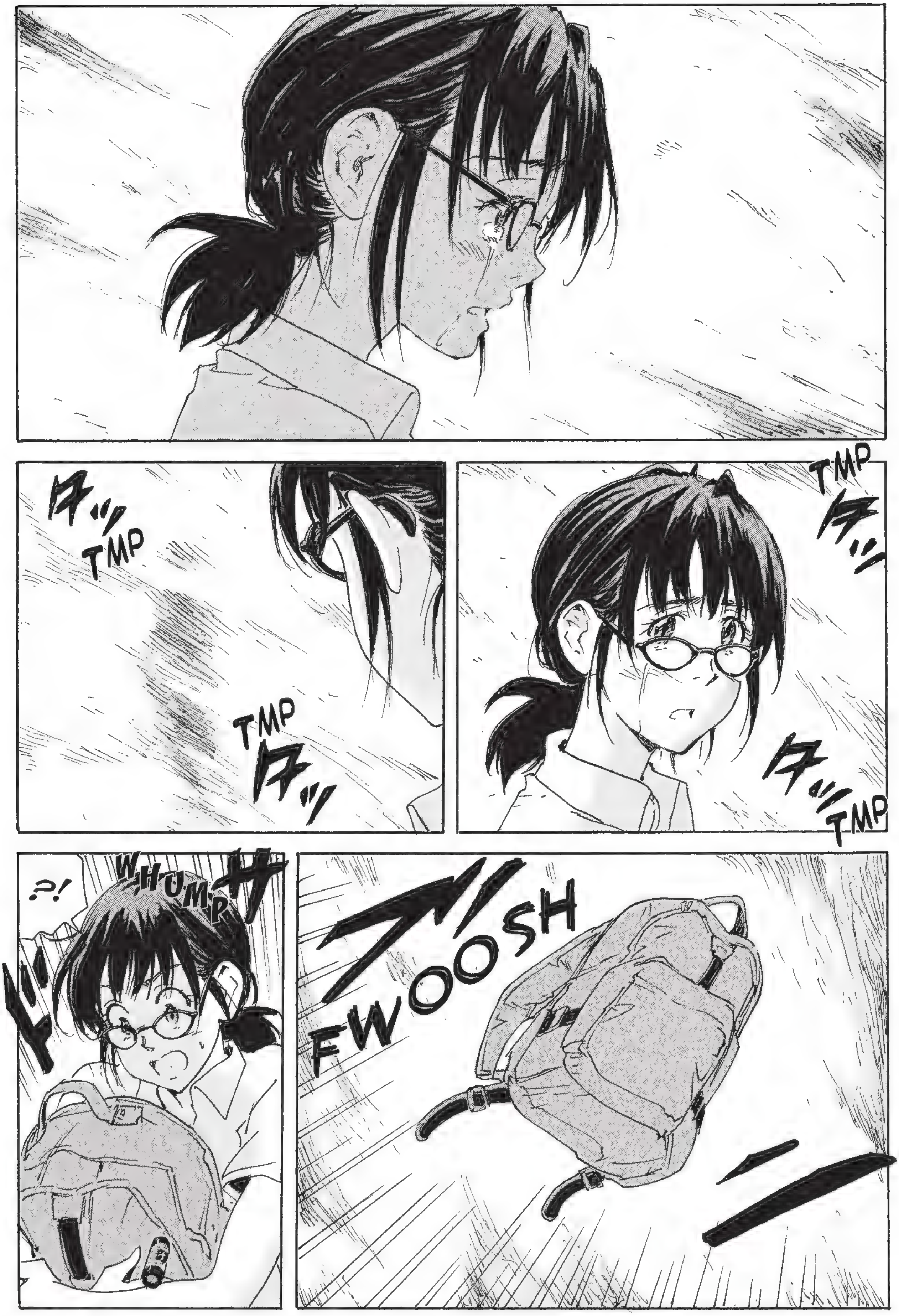

文
VP!
Fall back! Please!
BLAM
We'll find a way to hold them back by ourselves—
BLAM
Ahh ...!
BOOM
ズドーン

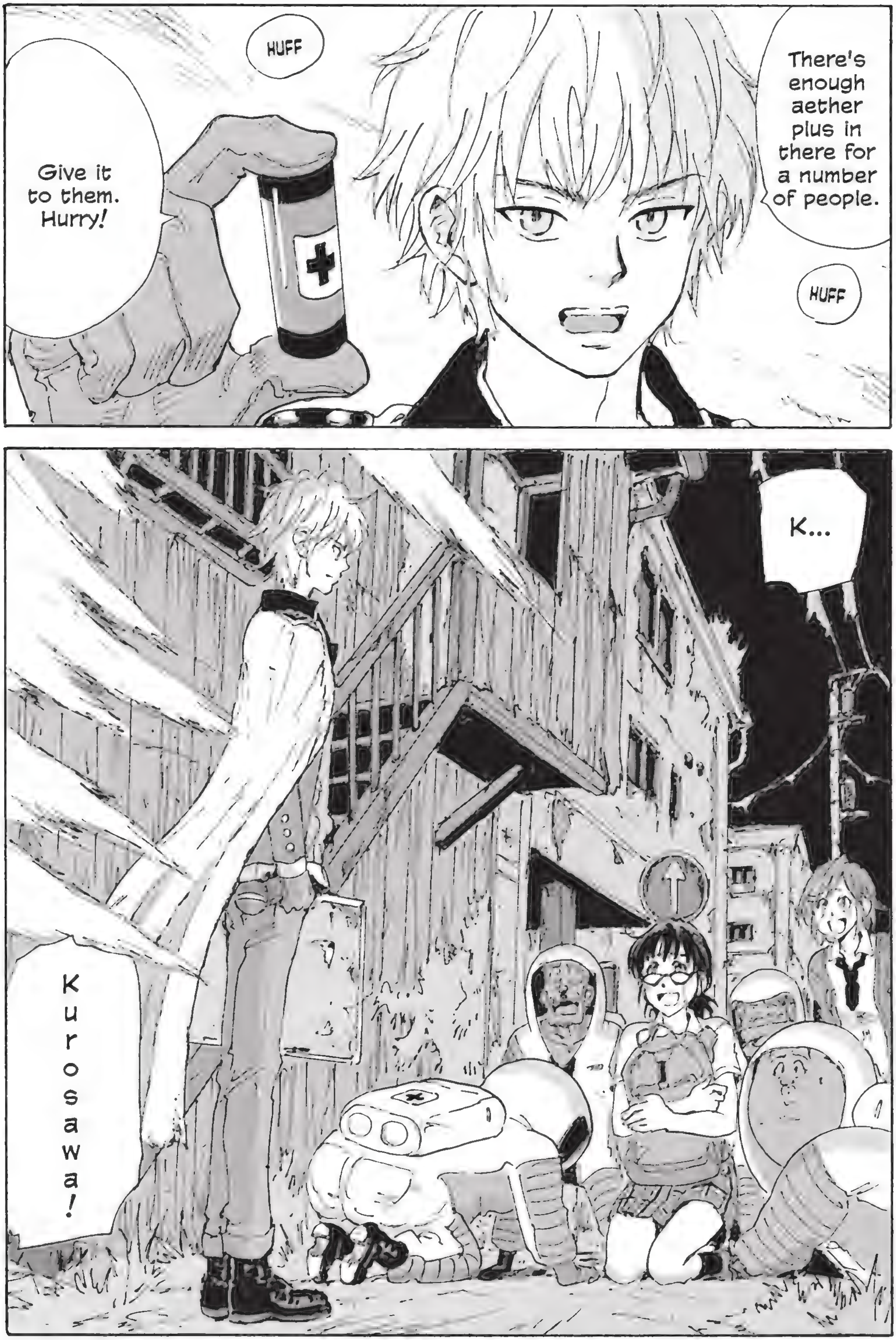

FWIP
You idiot!
Get back here, Prime Minister!
BWISH
!
Lt. Ibuse!
L-Lieutenant!
Leave me!
Protect the Prime Minister!
RA TA TA TA


HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
ピ
BEEP
ピ
BEEP
ピ
BEEP
ピ
BEEP
ピ
BEEP
ピ
BEEP
A danger zone ...!
ピ
BEEP
FWOOOM

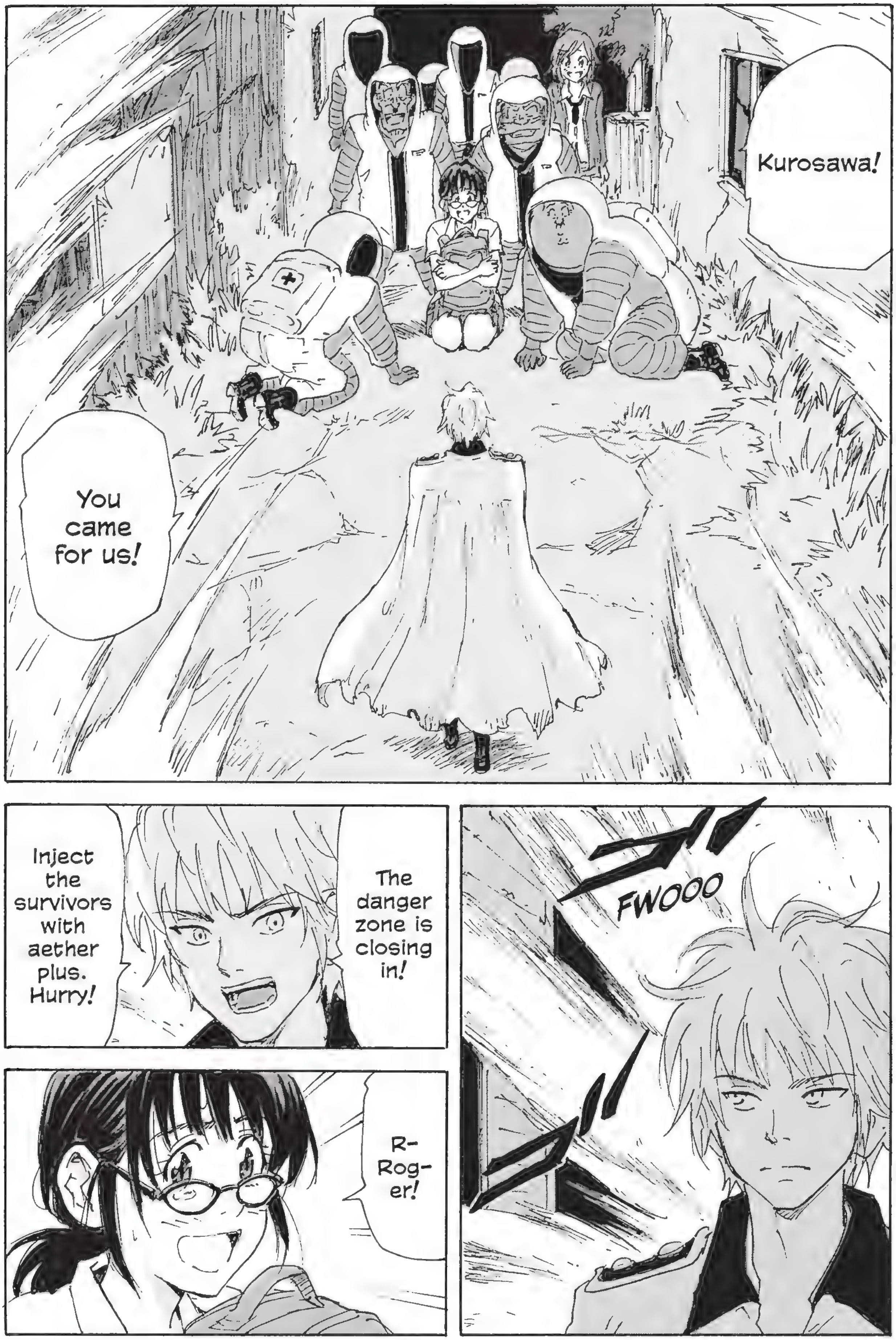

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
So this is it...?
Well, we did the best we could.
As long as we're all...
ピ
BEEP
ピ
BEEP
ピ
BEEP
... together... there's nothin' to fear.

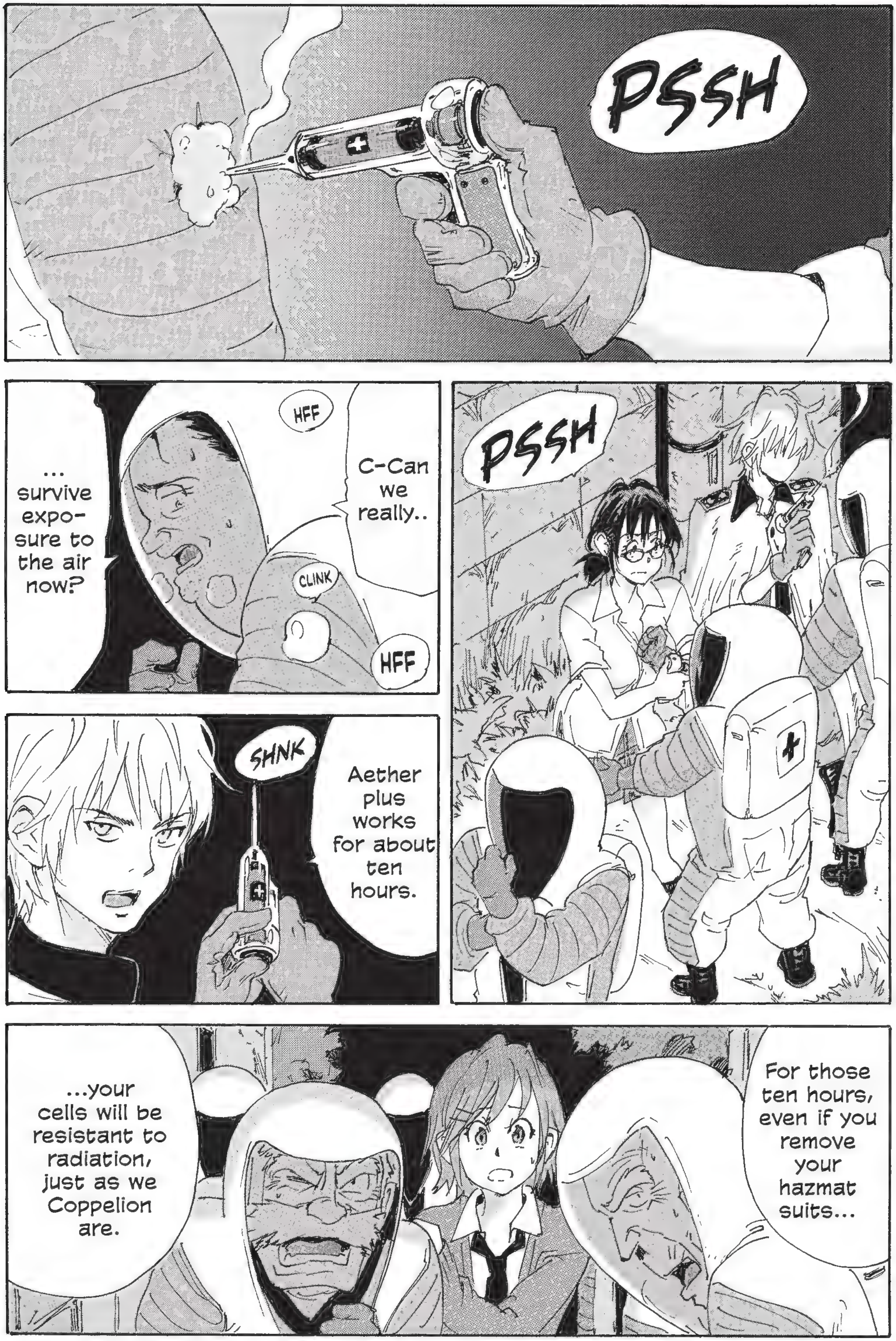


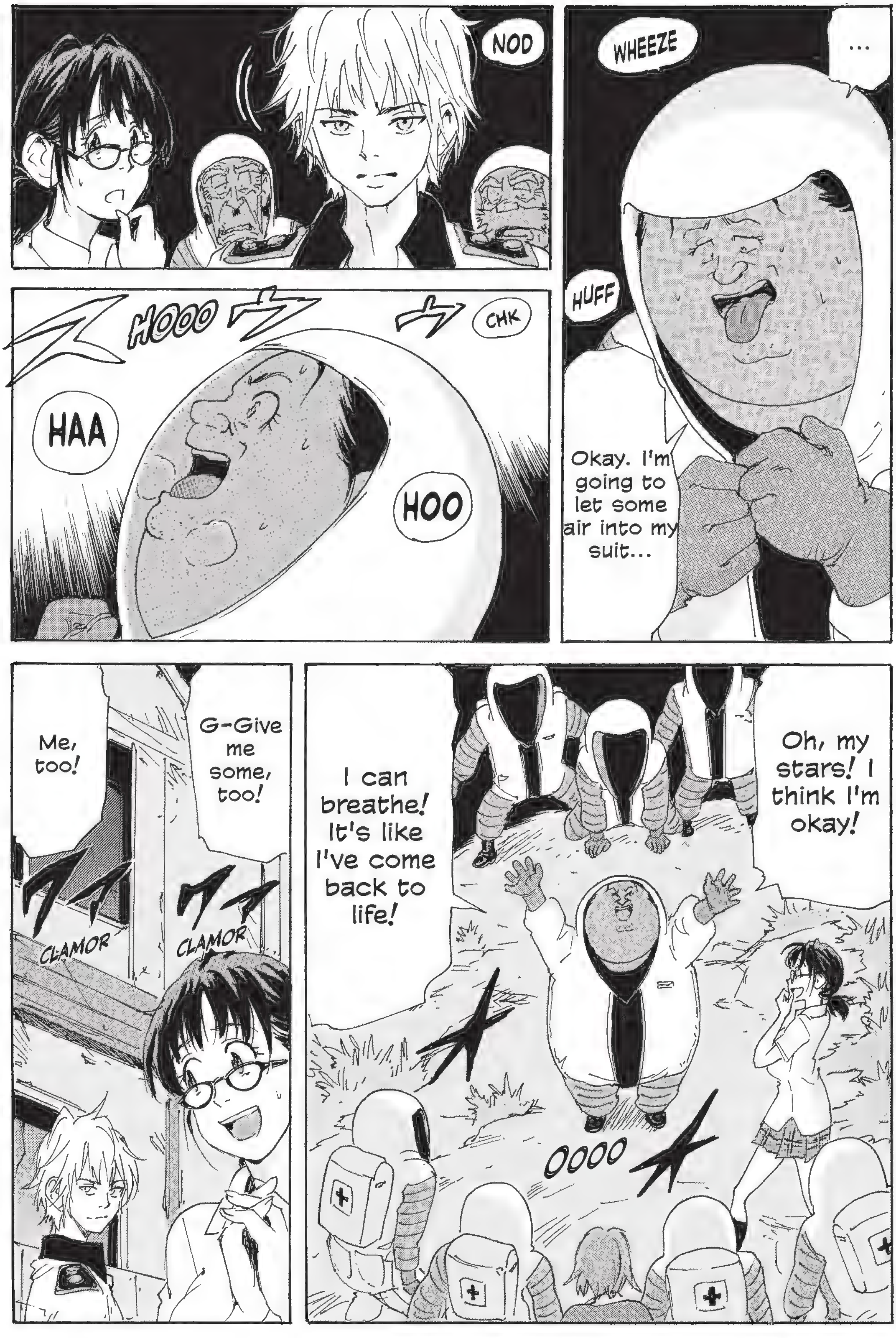

TMP
タッ
タッ
TMP
タッ
TMP
TMP
タッ
FWOOSH
?!
WHUMP

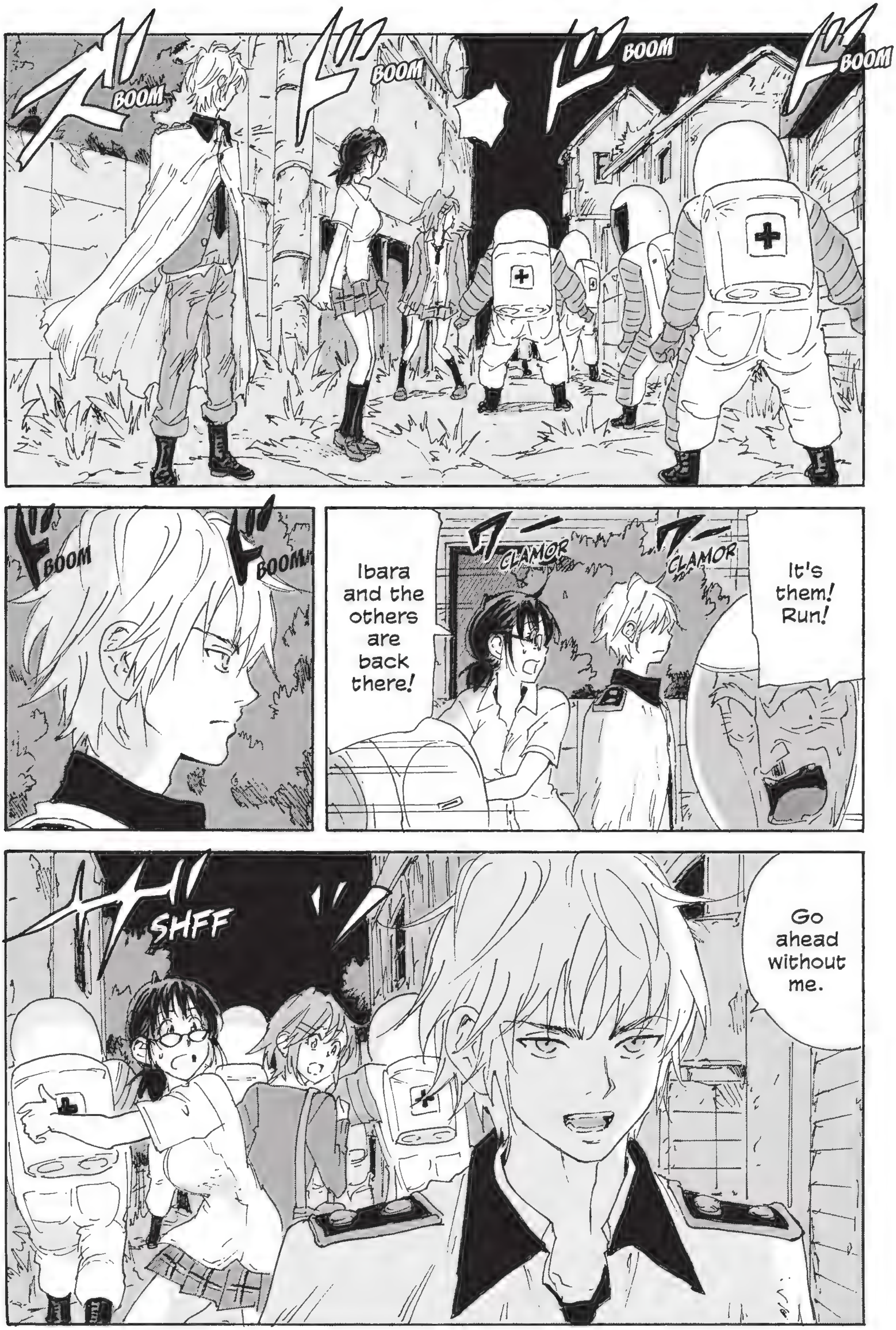

There's enough aether plus in there for a number of people.
HUFF
HUFF
Give it to them. Hurry!
K...
Kurosawa!

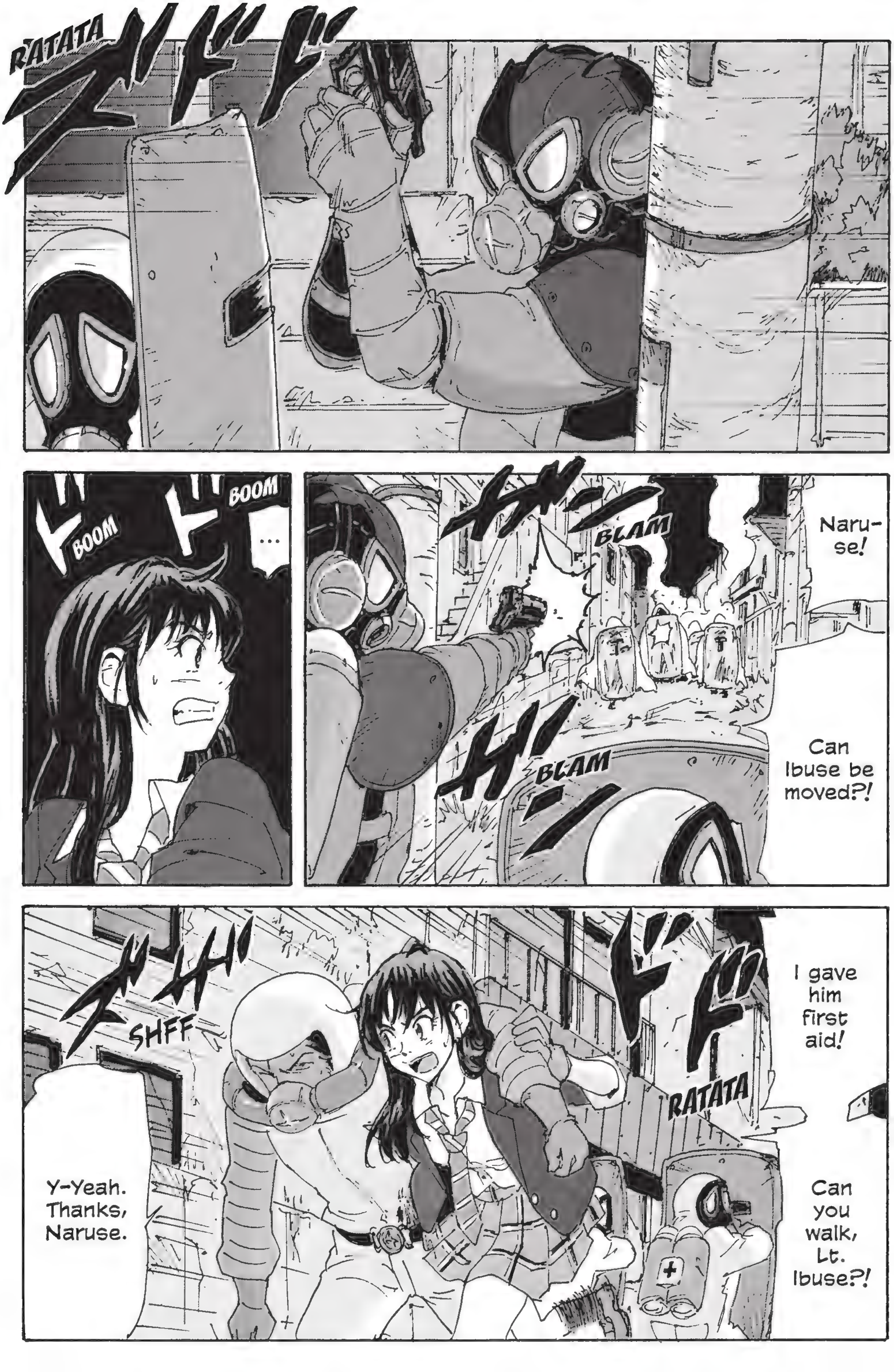
Act.29【 A Distant Promise 】

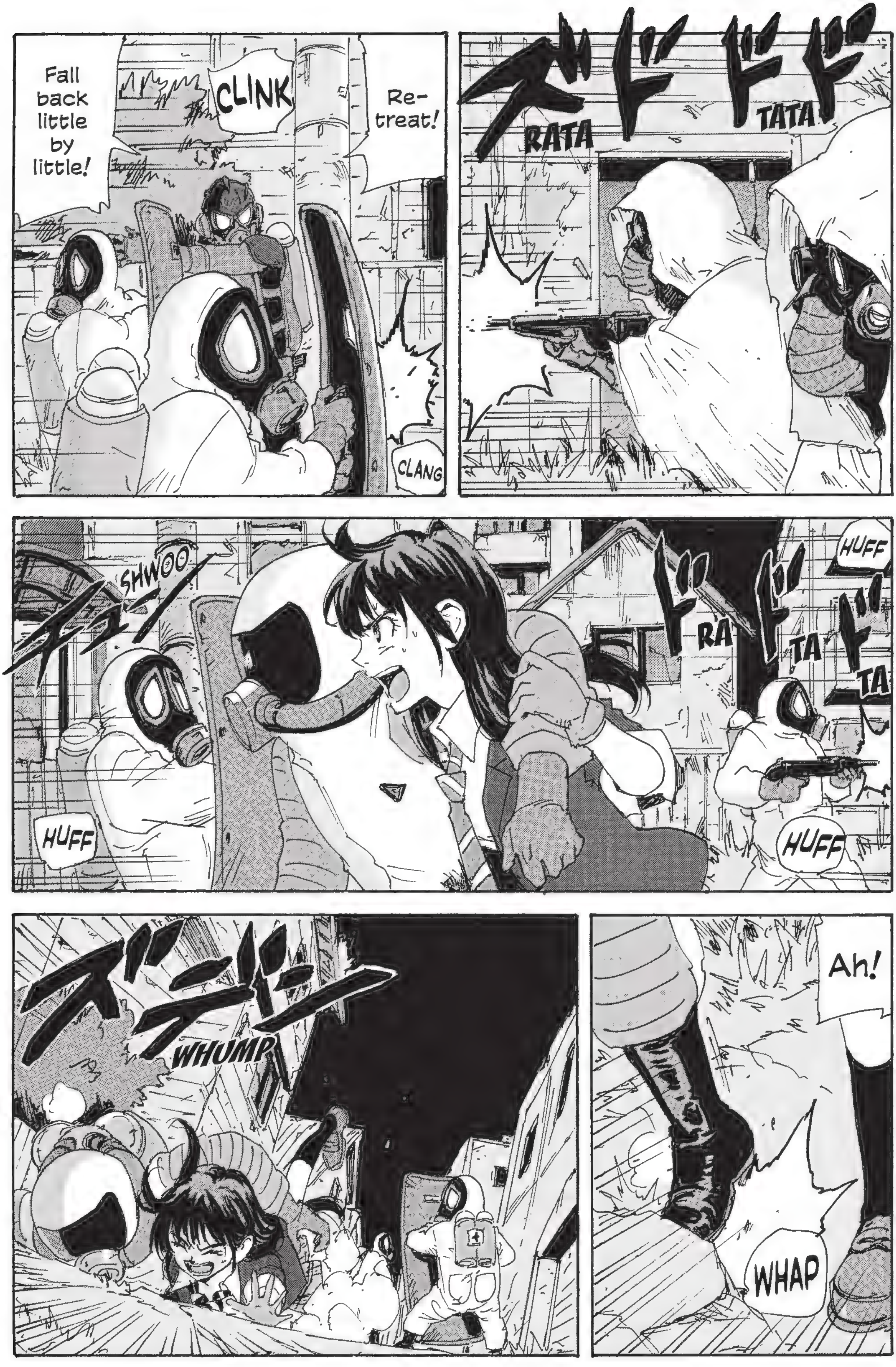

Kurosawa!
You came for us!
FWOOO
The danger zone is closing in!
Inject the survivors with aether plus. Hurry!
R-Roger!

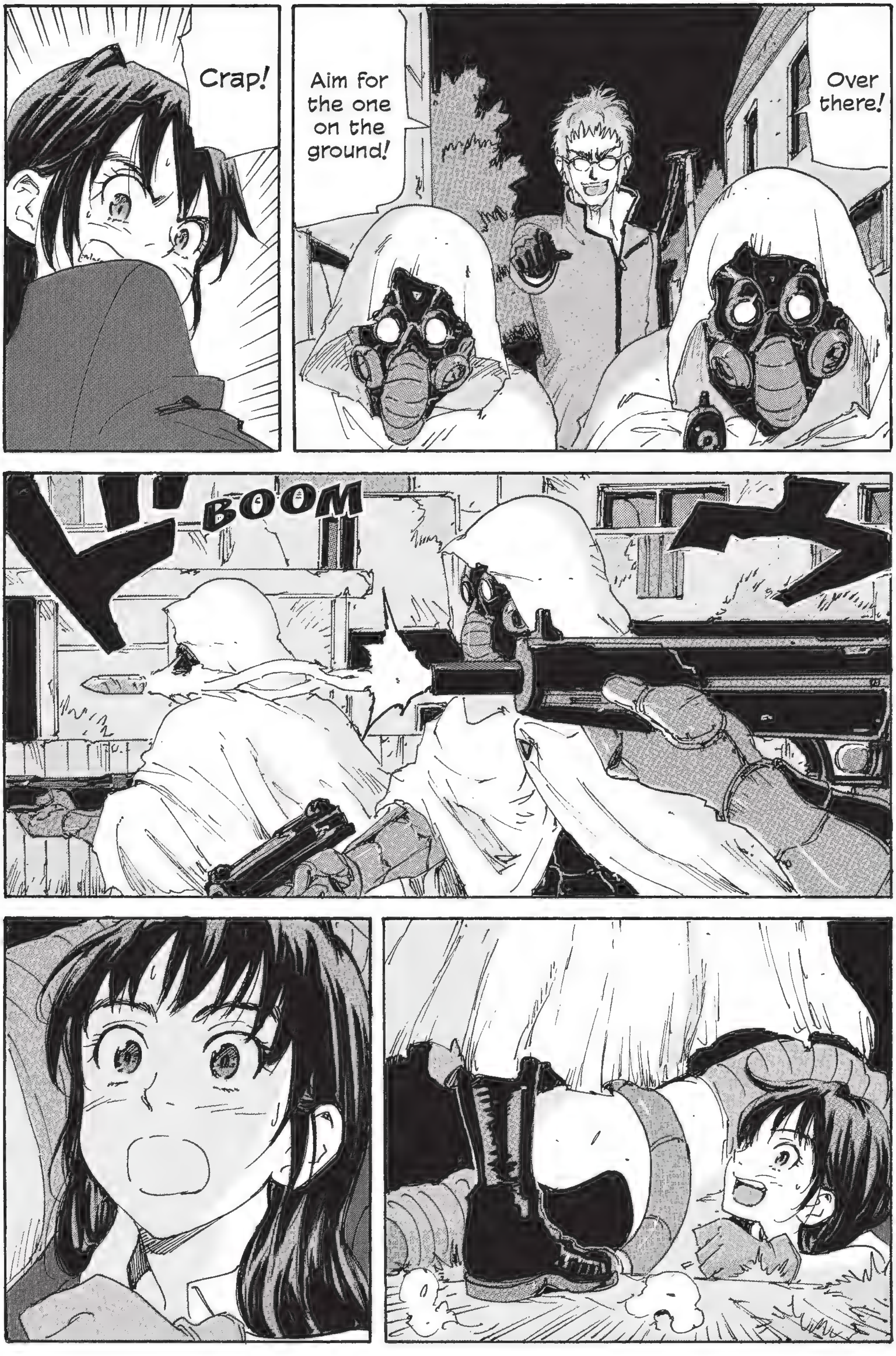

PSSH
PSSH
HFF
C-Can we really..
CLINK
HFF
... survive exposure to the air now?
SHNK
Aether plus works for about ten hours.
For those ten hours, even if you remove your hazmat suits...
...your cells will be resistant to radiation, just as we Coppelion are.

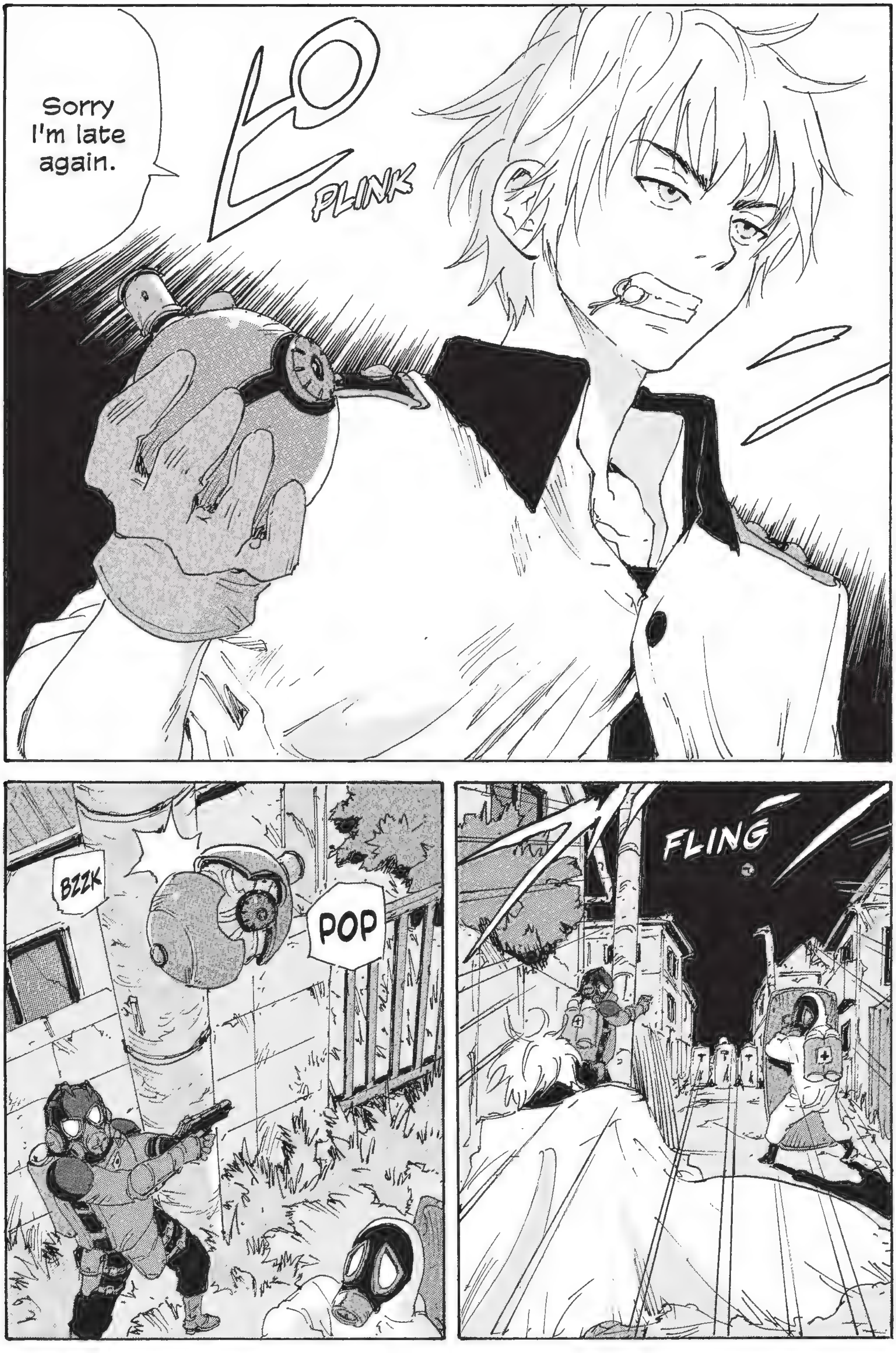

...
WHEEZE
HUFF
Okay. I'm going to let some air into my suit...
NOD
CHK
ウ
HOOO ウ
HOO
HAA
Oh, my stars! I think I'm okay!
I can breathe! It's like I've come back to life!
OOOO
G-Give me some, too!
Me, too!
CLAMOR
CLAMOR

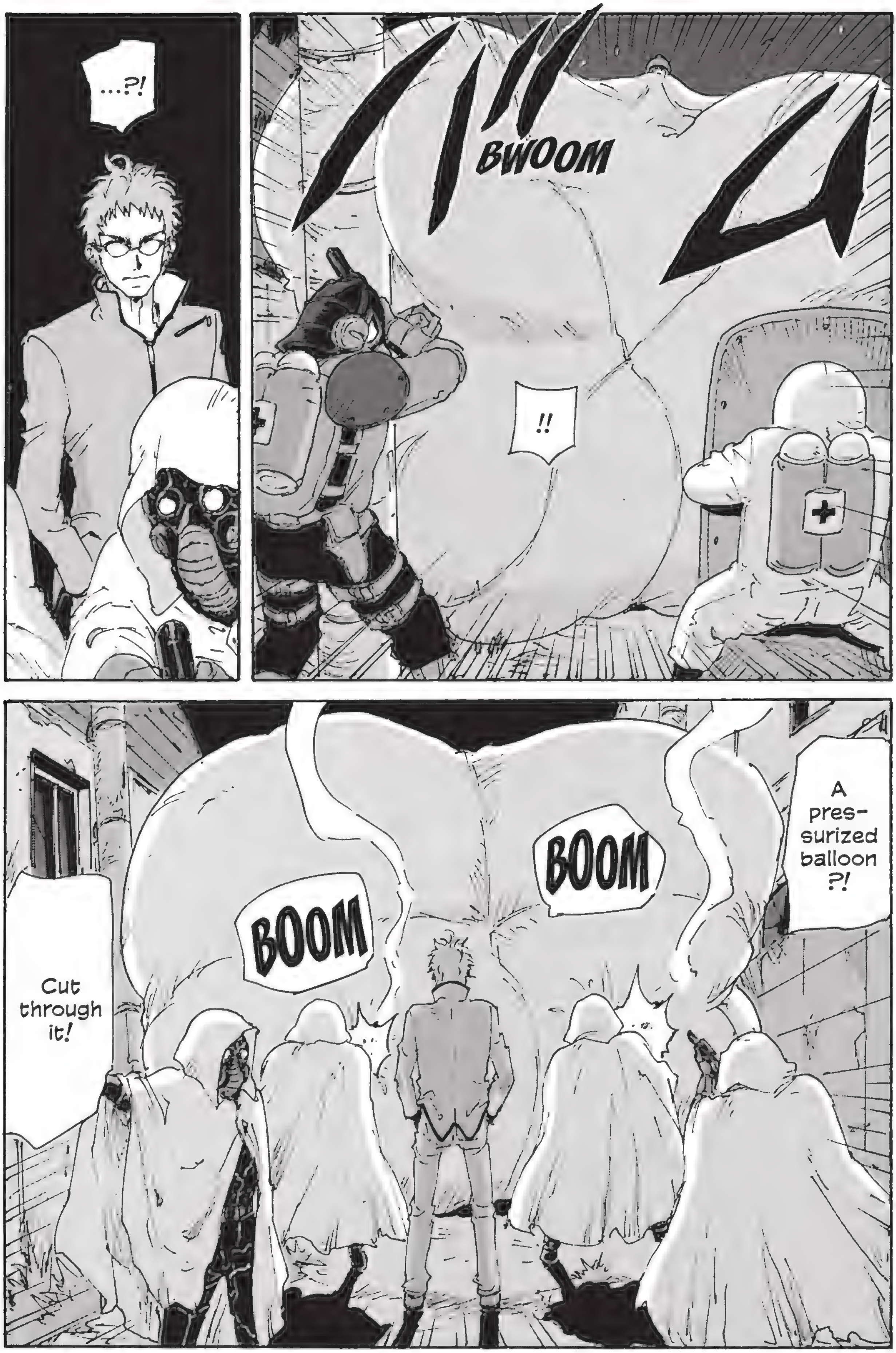

BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
It's them! Run!
CLAMOR
CLAMOR
Ibara and the others are back there!
BOOM
BOOM
Go ahead without me.
SHFF

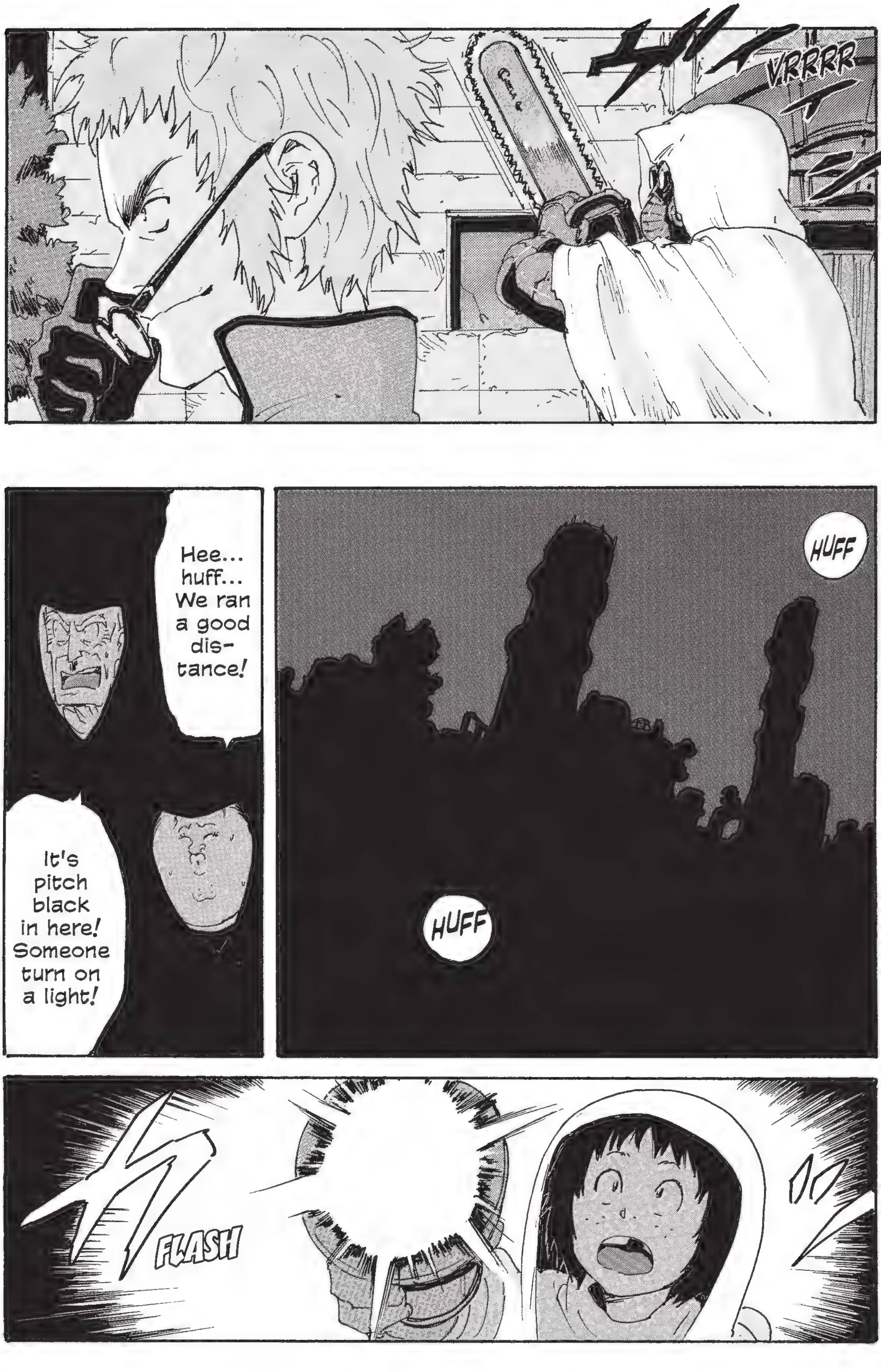

RATATA
Naruse!
BLAM
BLAM
Can Ibuse be moved?!
BOOM
BOOM
...
I gave him first aid!
RATATA
Can you walk, Lt. Ibuse?!
SHFF
Y-Yeah. Thanks, Naruse.

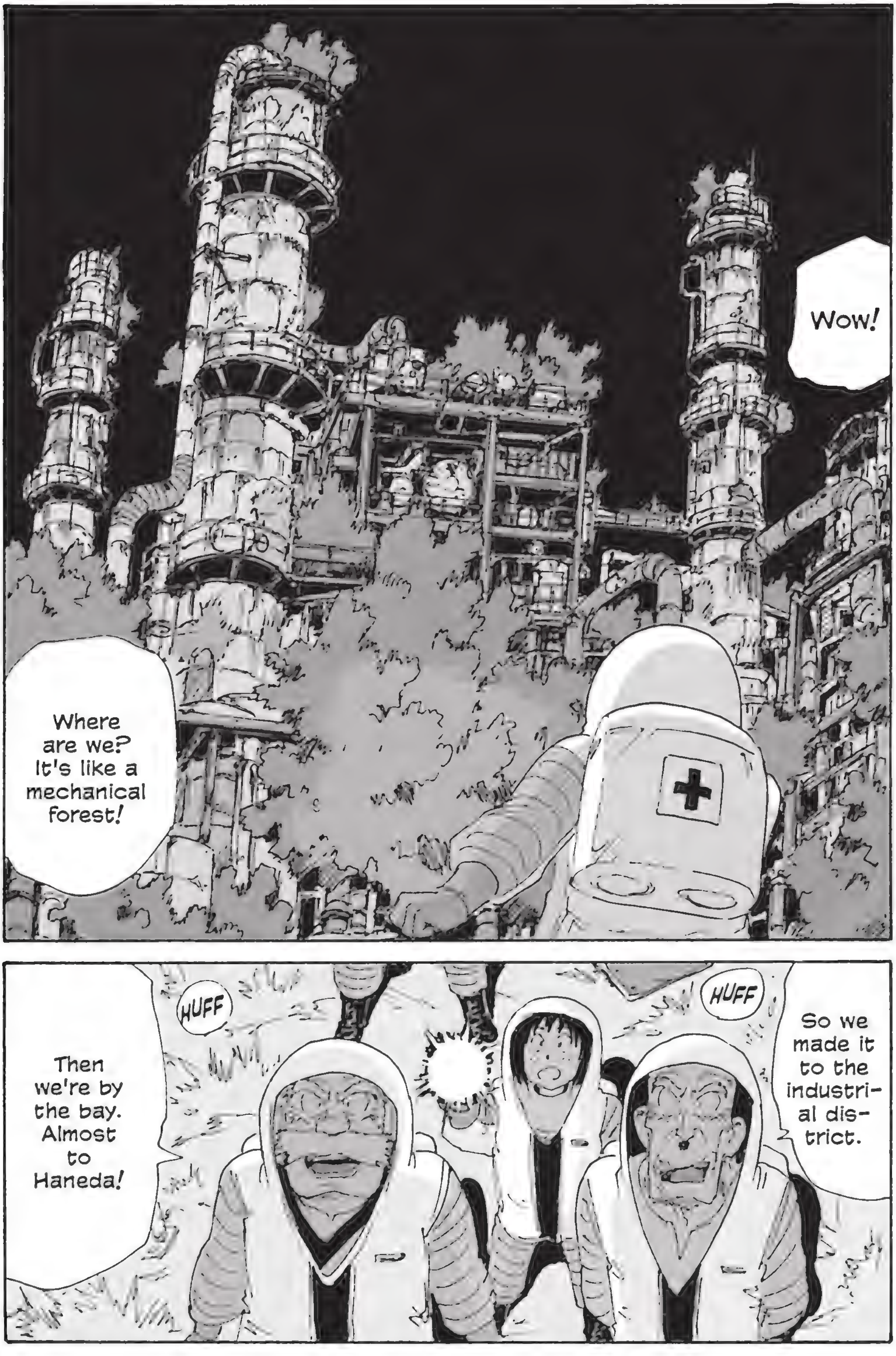

ズドドド
RATA
TATA
Re-treat!
Fall back little by little!
CLINK
CLANG
ドドド
RA
TA
TA
HUFF
SHWOO
HUFF
HUFF
Ah!
WHAP
ズドー
WHUMP

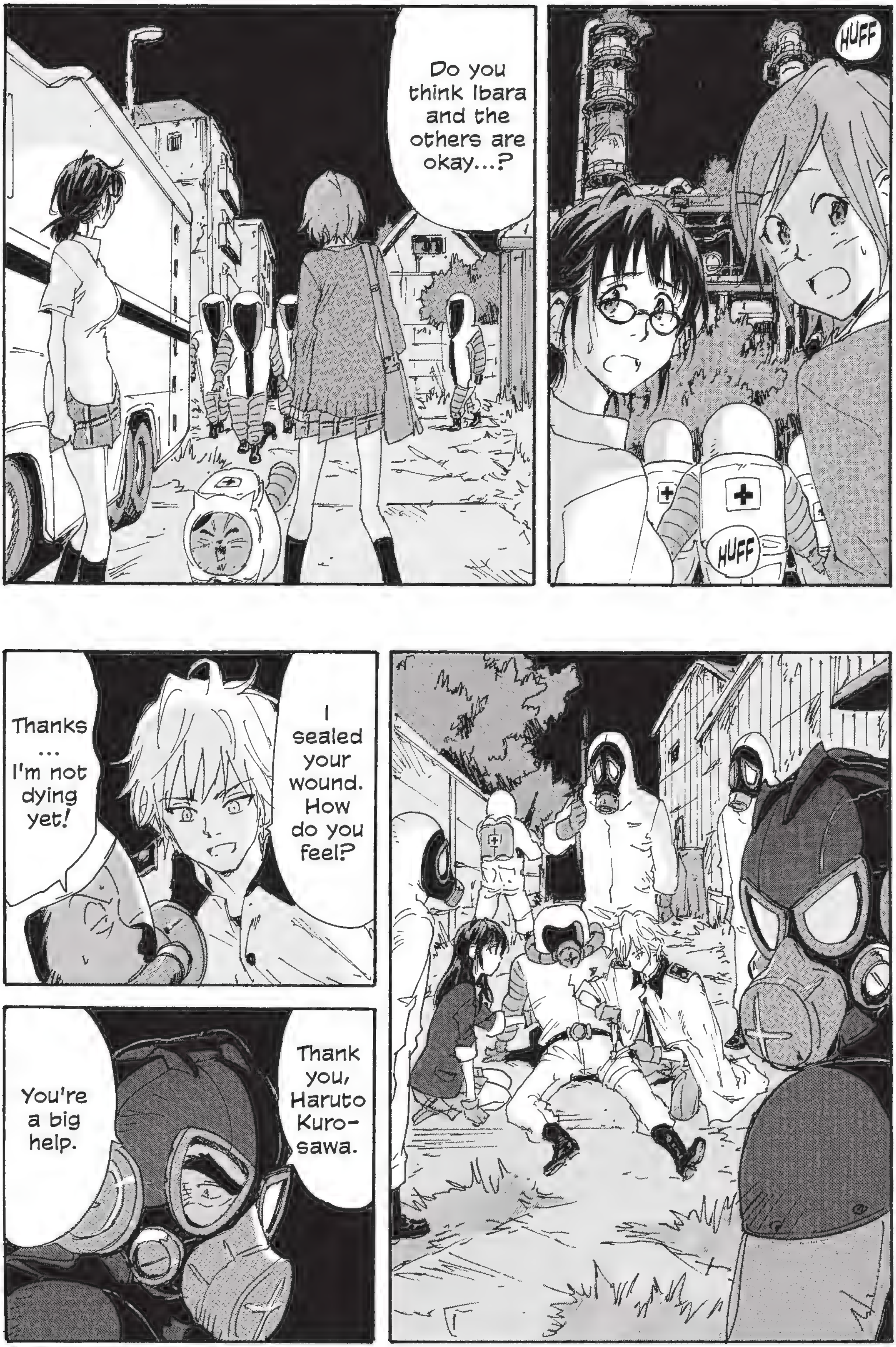

Over there!
Aim for the one on the ground!
Crap!
BOOM

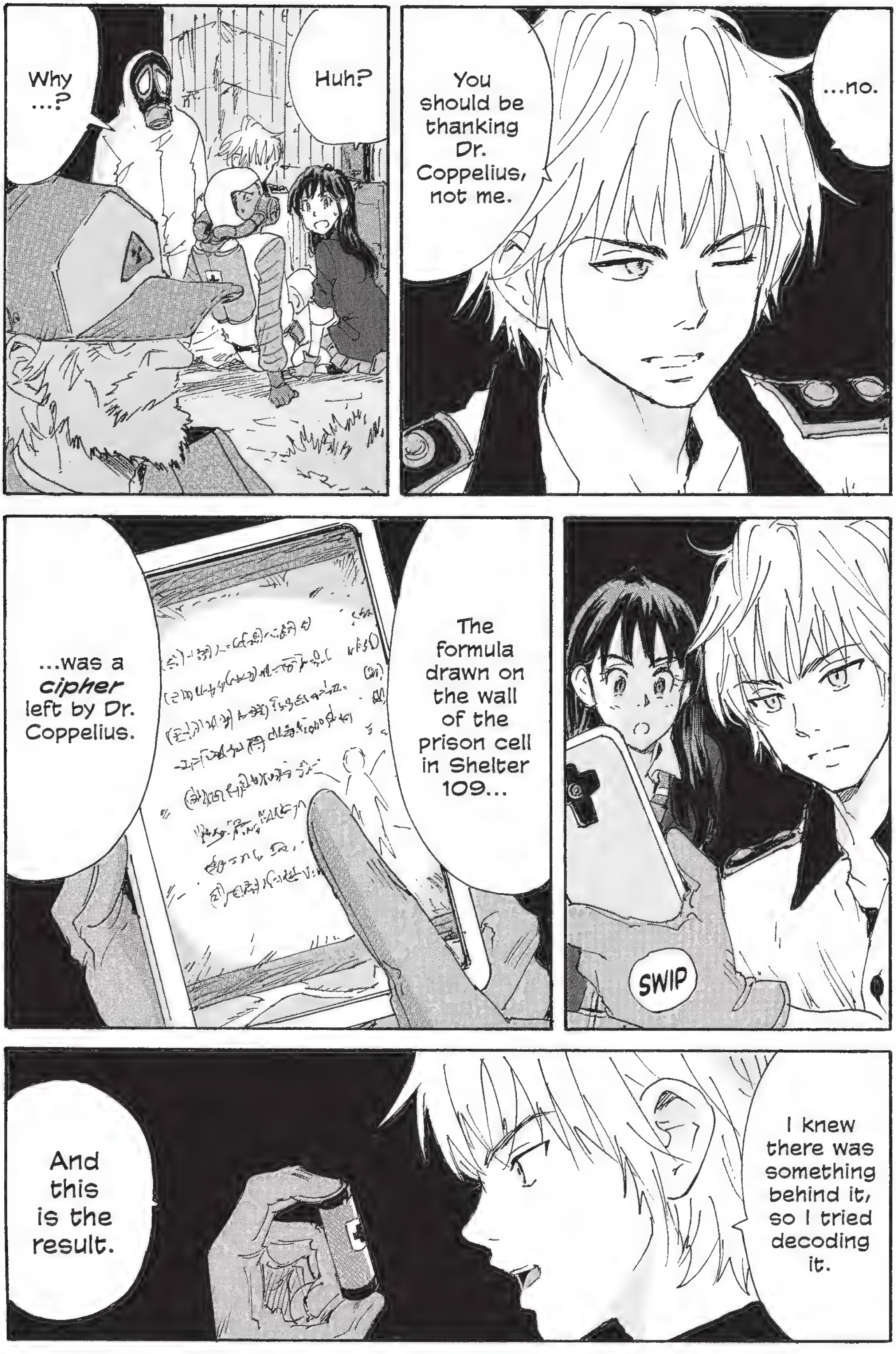

Sorry I'm late again.
PLINK
FLING
POP
BZZK

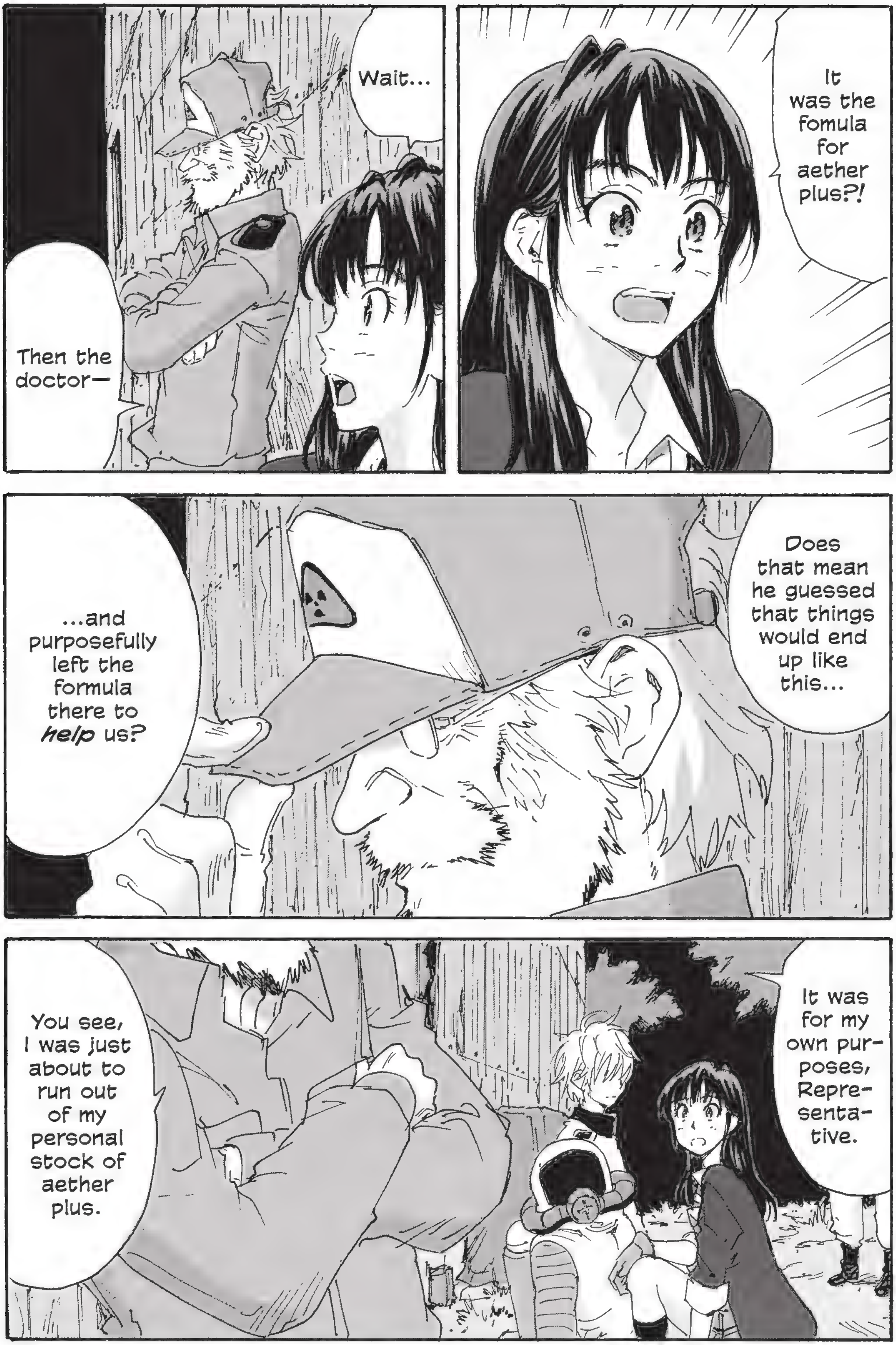

BWOOM
!!
...?!
A pressurized balloon?!
BOOM
BOOM
Cut through it!

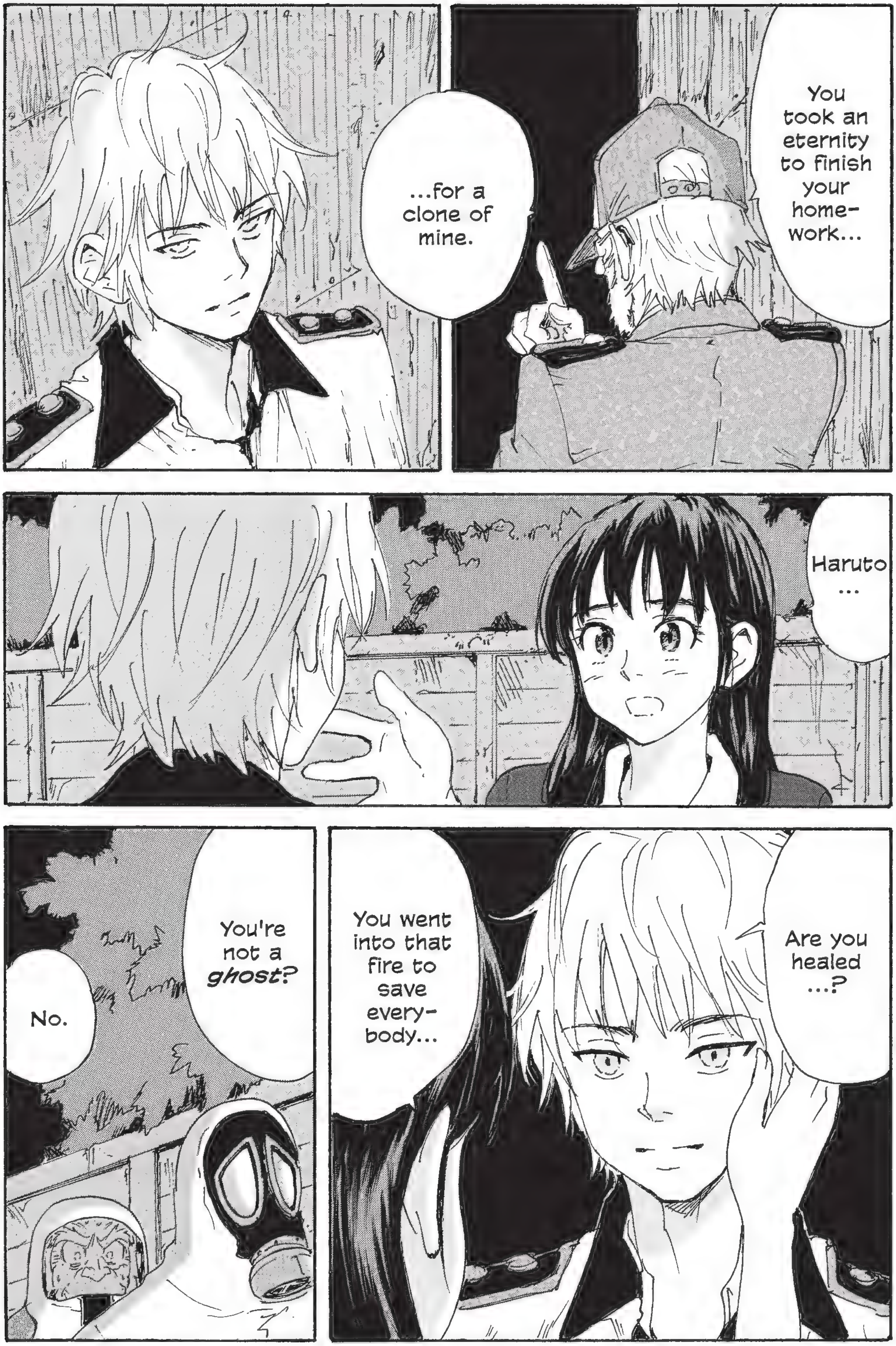

VRRRR
HUFF
HUFF
Hee... huff... We ran a good distance!
It's pitch black in here! Someone turn on a light!
FLASH

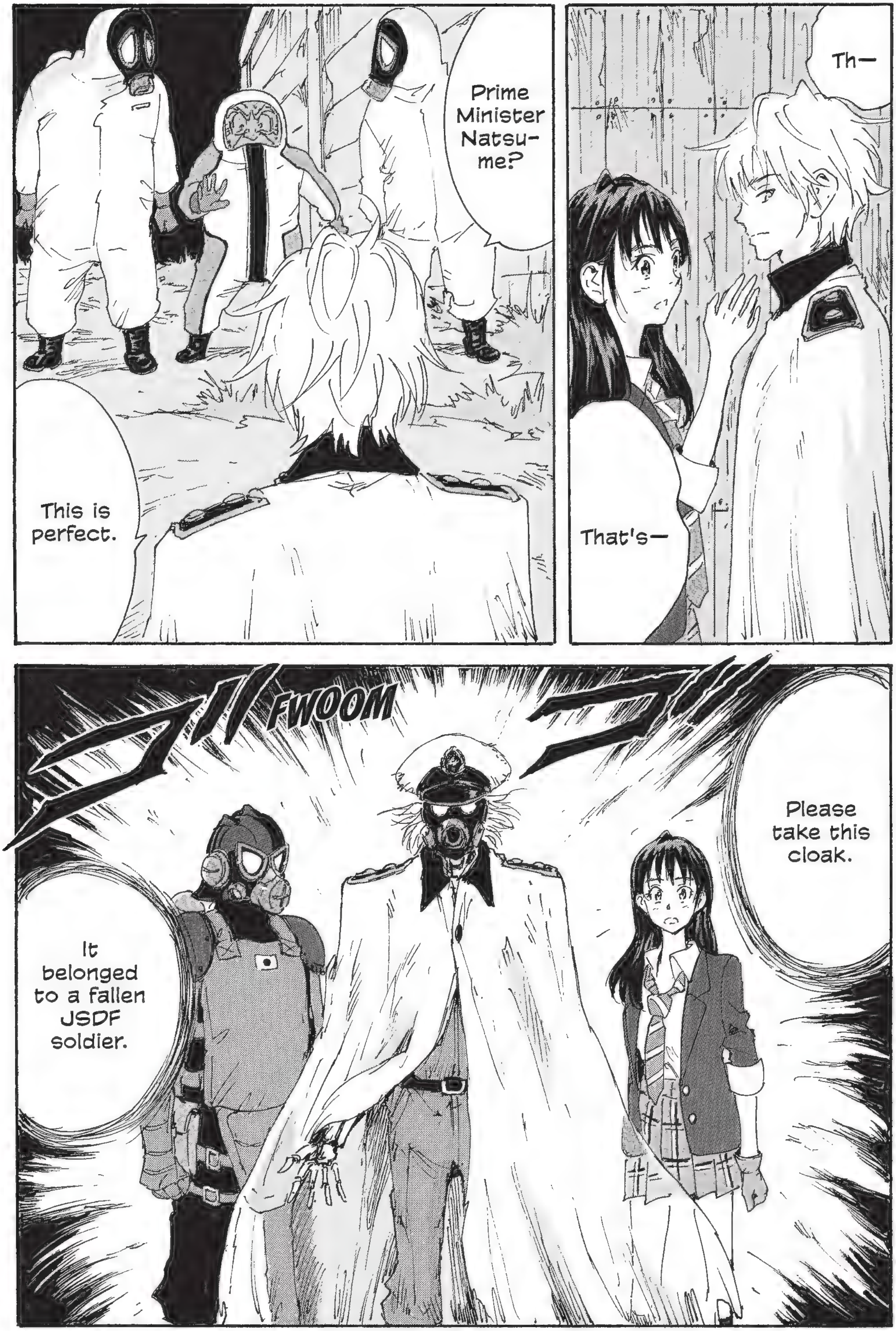

Wow!
Where are we? It's like a mechanical forest!
So we made it to the industrial district.
HUFF
HUFF
Then we're by the bay. Almost to Haneda!

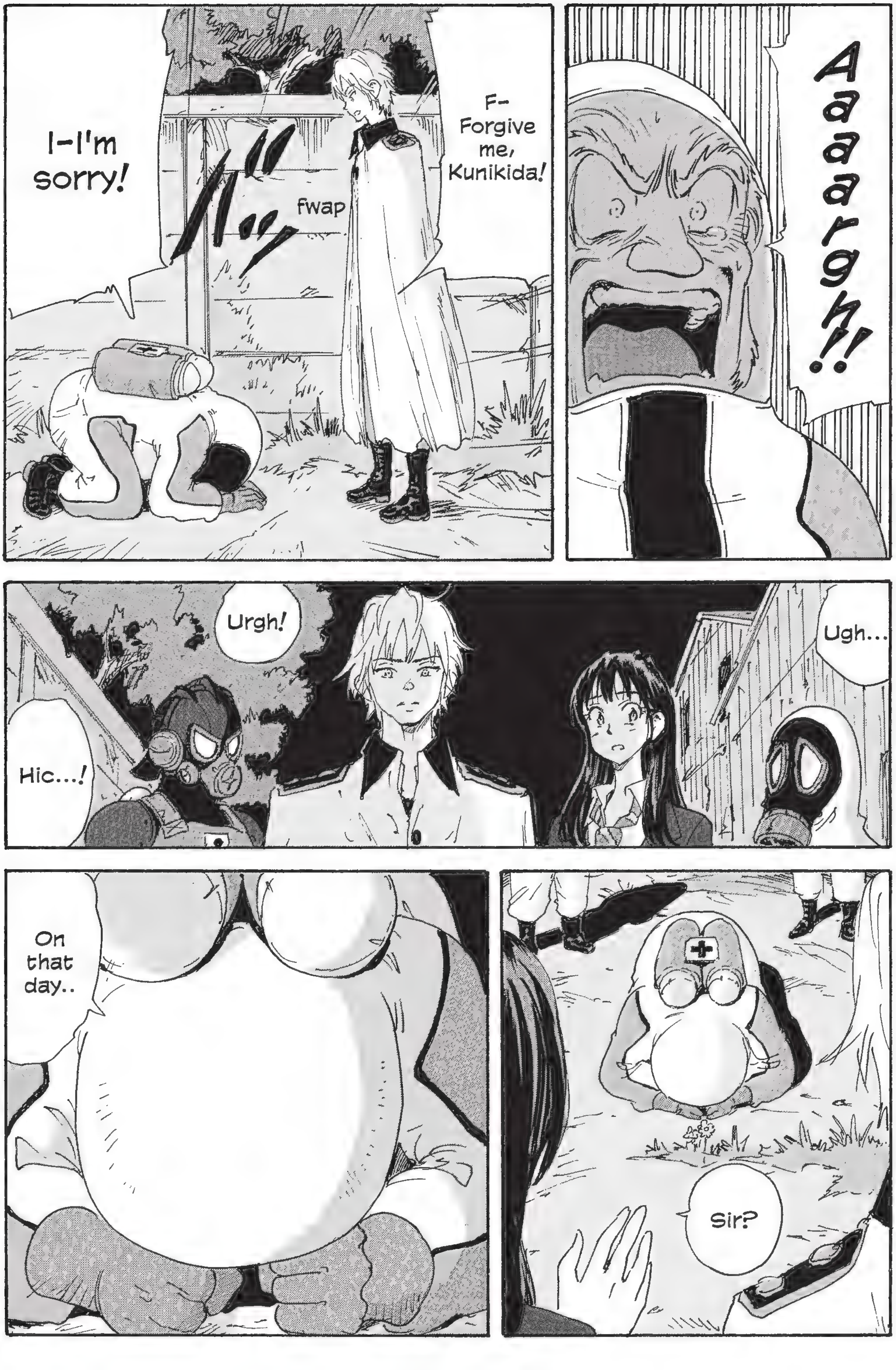

HUFF
HUFF
Do you think Ibara and the others are okay...?
I sealed your wound. How do you feel?
Thanks... I'm not dying yet!
Thank you, Haruto Kuro-sawa.
You're a big help.

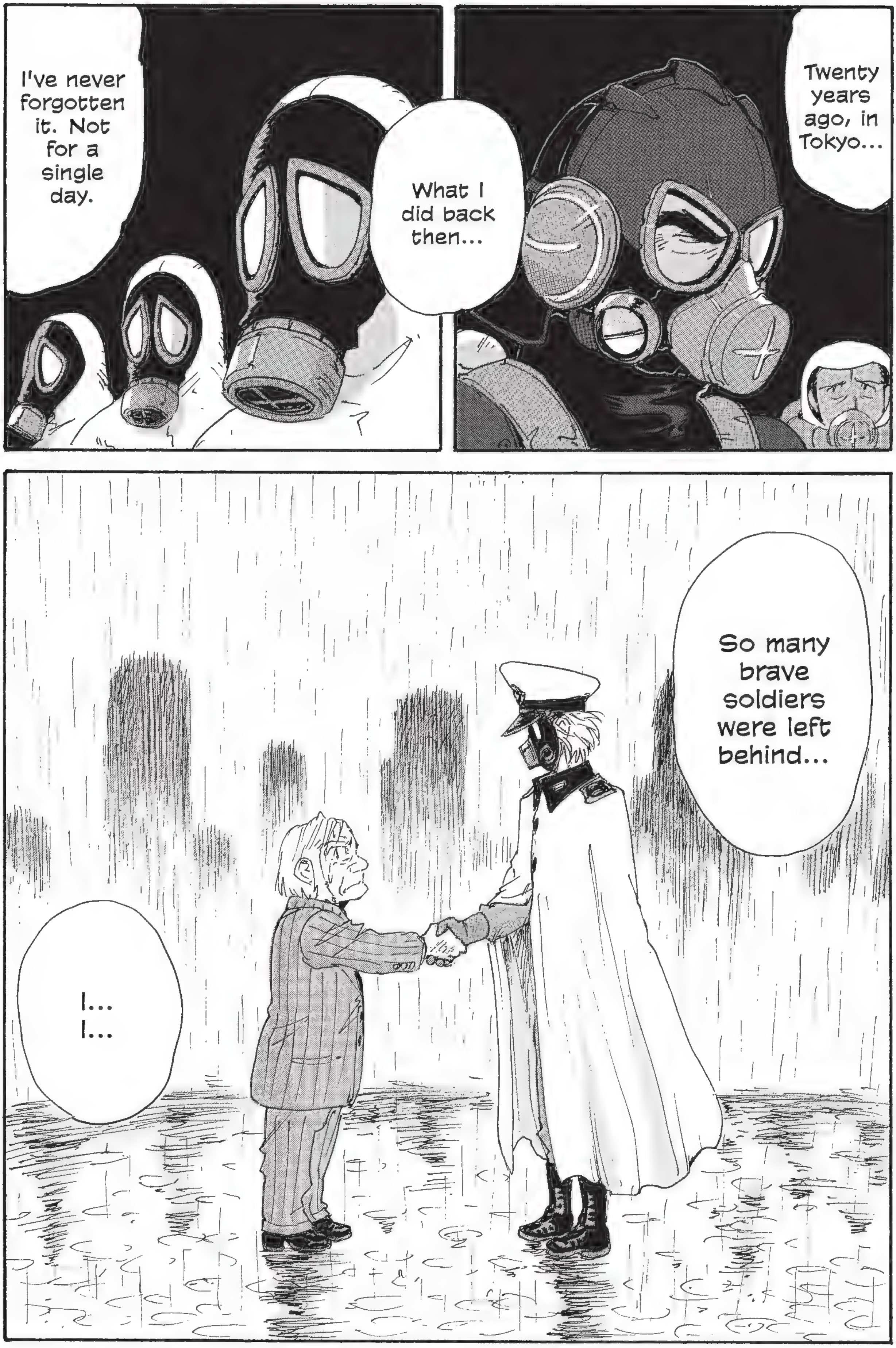

...no.
You should be thanking Dr. Coppelius, not me.
Huh?
Why ...?
SWIP
The formula drawn on the wall of the prison cell in Shelter 109...
...was a *cipher* left by Dr. Coppelius.
I knew there was something behind it, so I tried decoding it.
And this is the result.

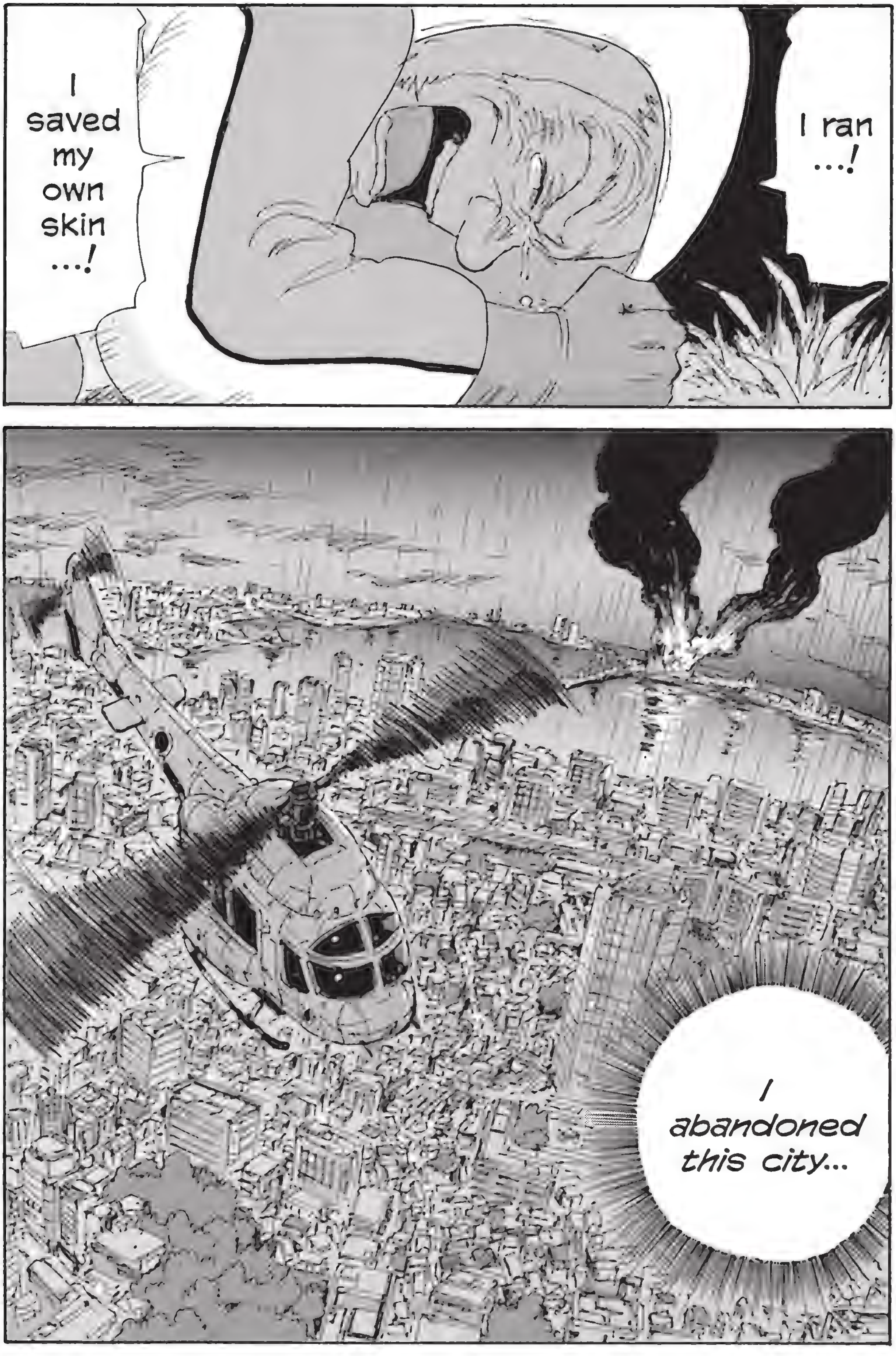

It was the fomula for aether plus?!
Wait...
Then the doctor—
Does that mean he guessed that things would end up like this...
...and purposefully left the formula there to *help* us?
It was for my own purposes, Representative.
You see, I was just about to run out of my personal stock of aether plus.

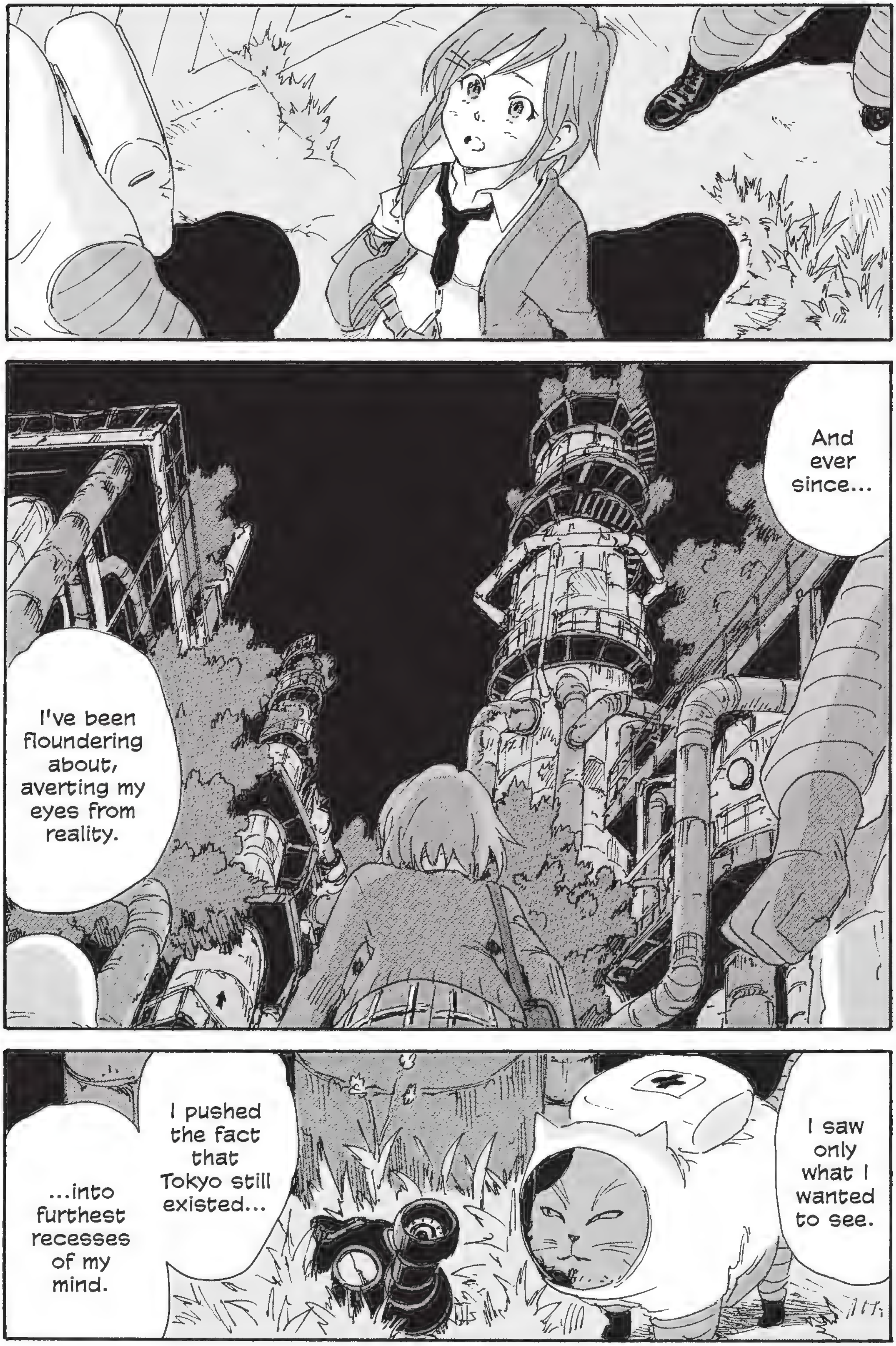

You took an eternity to finish your homework...
...for a clone of mine.
Haruto...
Are you healed...?
You went into that fire to save everybody...
You're not a *ghost*?
No.

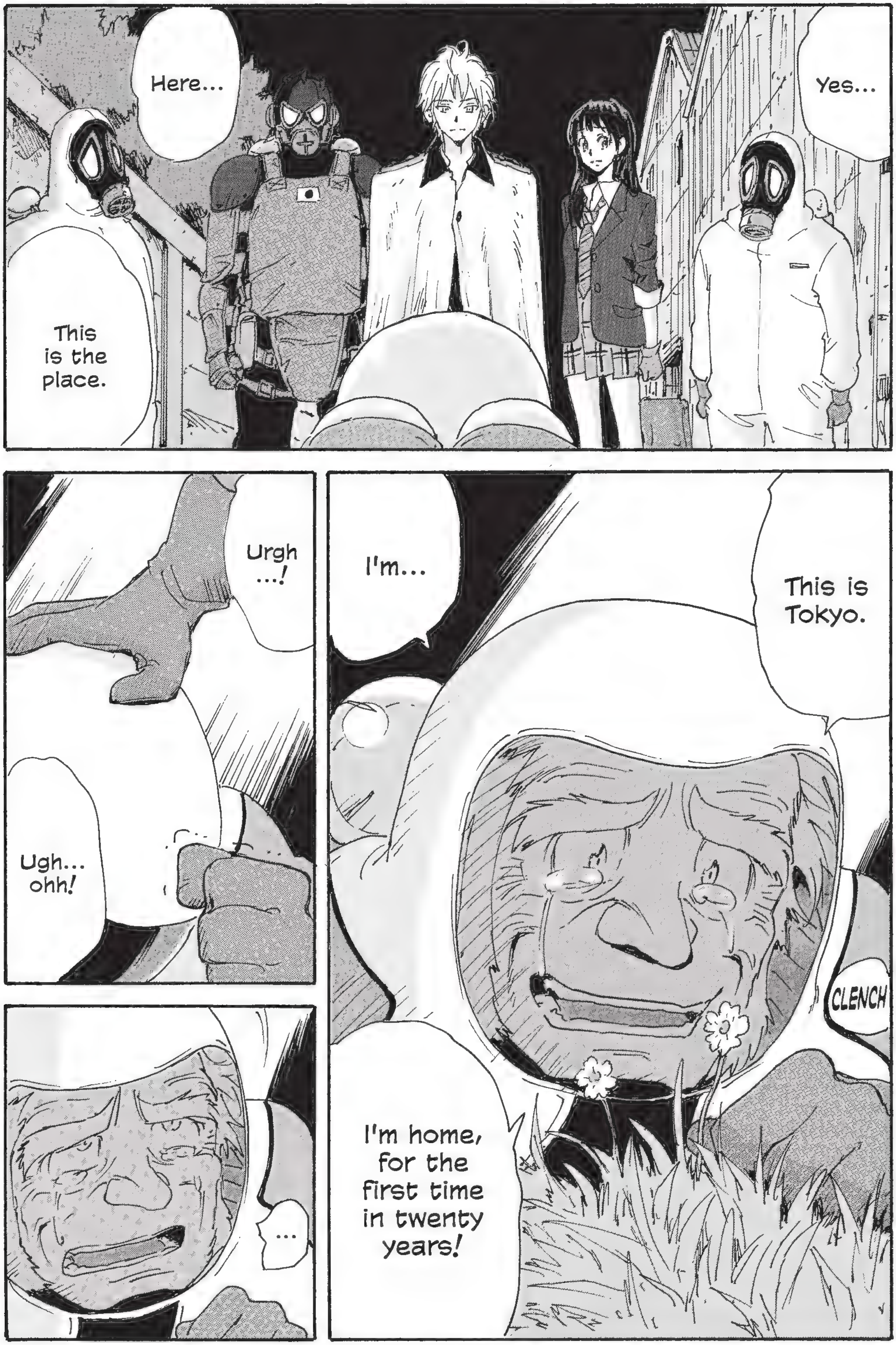

Th—
That's—
Prime Minister Natsume?
This is perfect.
FWOOM
Please take this cloak.
It belonged to a fallen JSDF soldier.

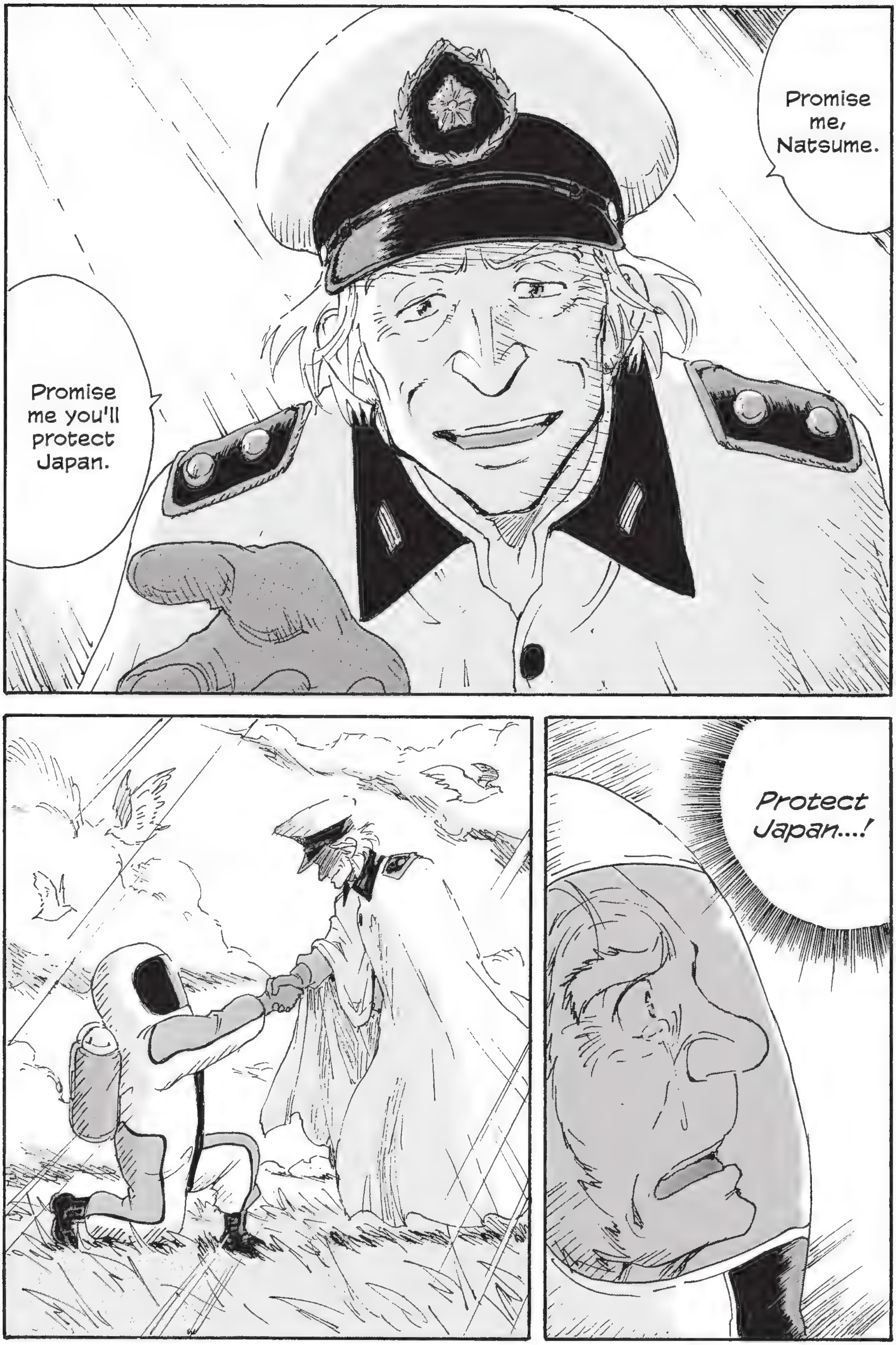

Aaaargh!!
F-Forgive me, Kunikida!
fwap
I-I'm sorry!
Ugh...
Urgh!
Hic...!
Sir?
On that day..

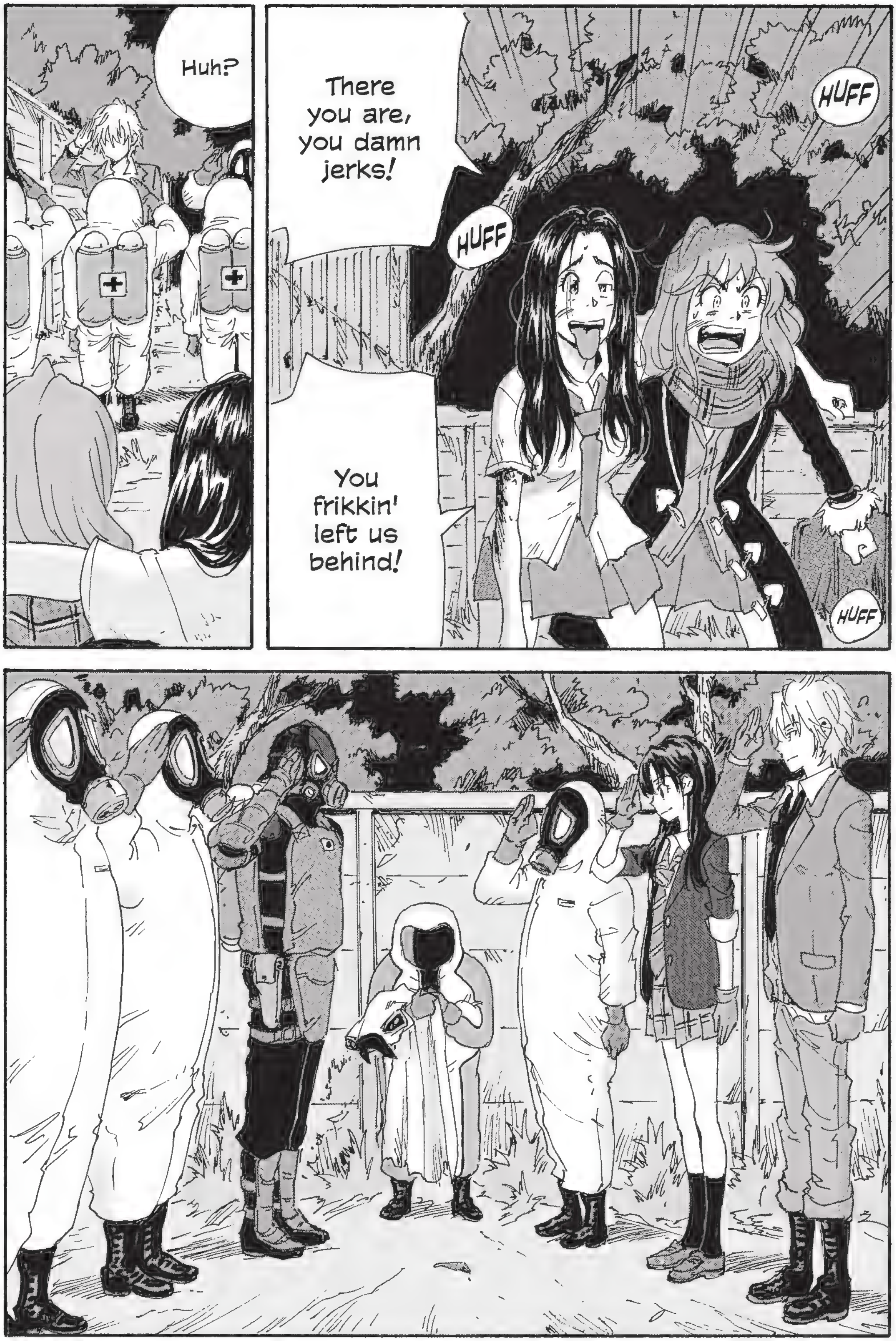

Twenty years ago, in Tokyo...
What I did back then...
I've never forgotten it. Not for a single day.
So many brave soldiers were left behind...
I... I...

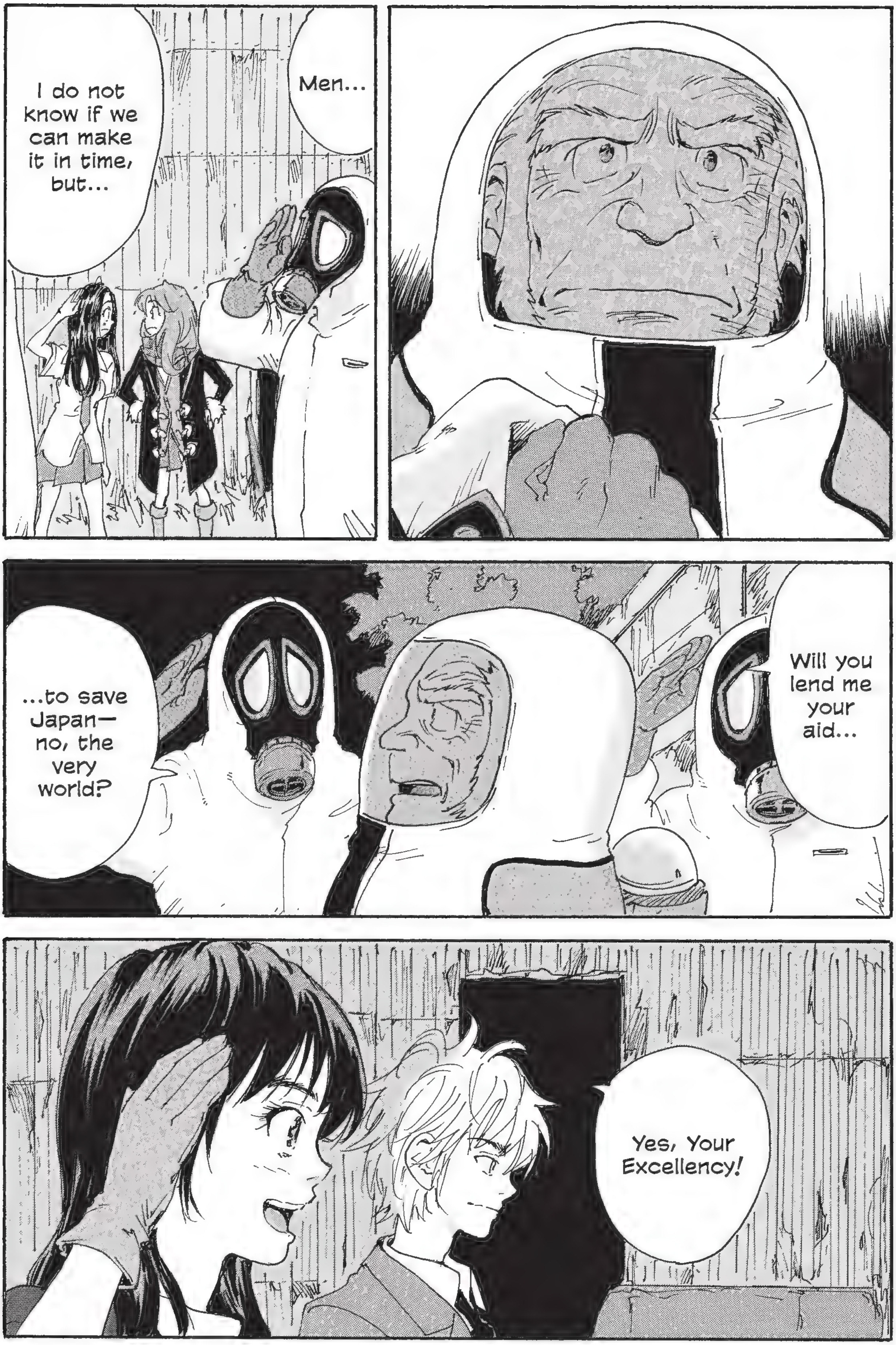

I ran ...!
I saved my own skin ...!
I abandoned this city...

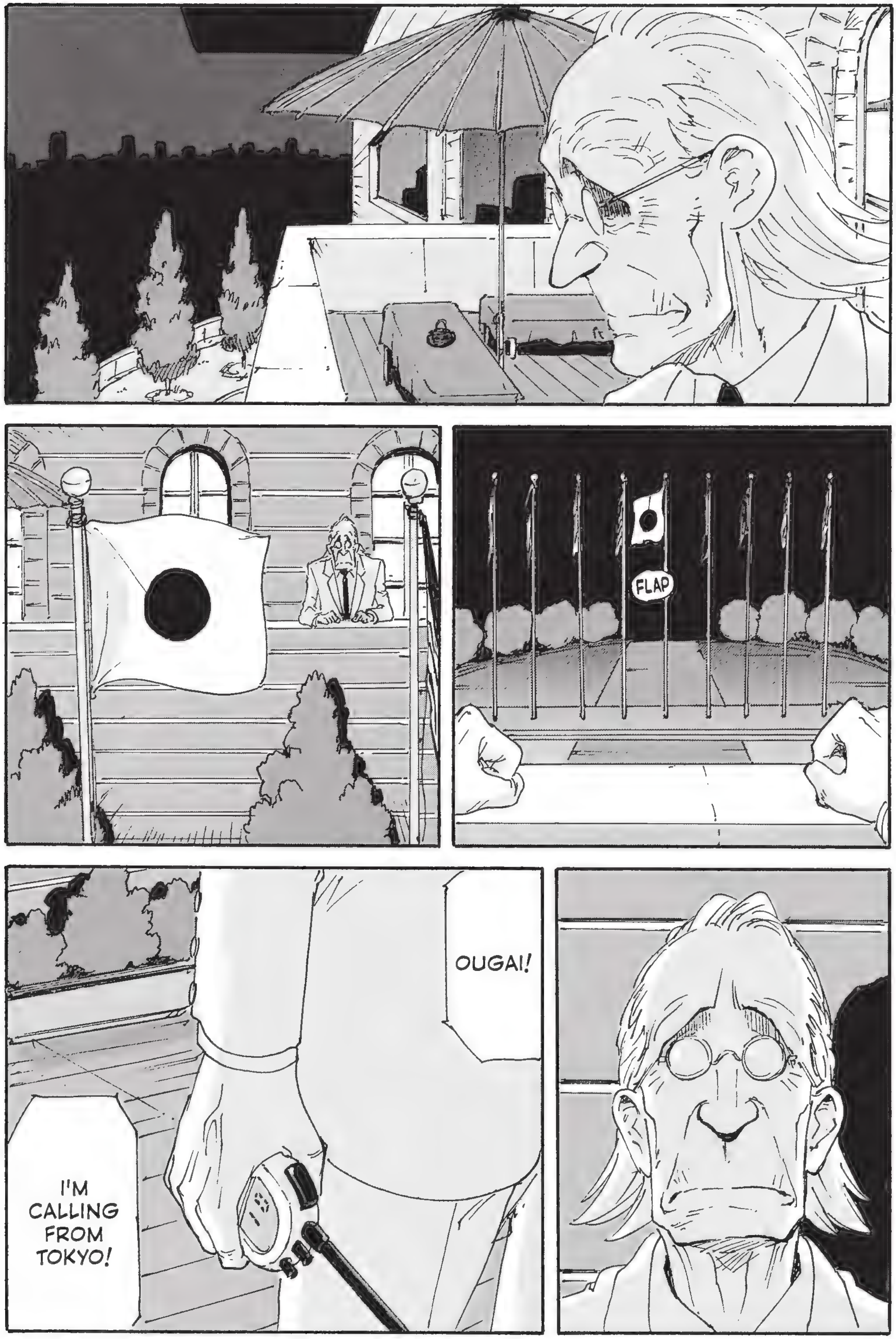

And ever since...
I've been floundering about, averting my eyes from reality.
I saw only what I wanted to see.
I pushed the fact that Tokyo still existed...
...into furthest recesses of my mind.

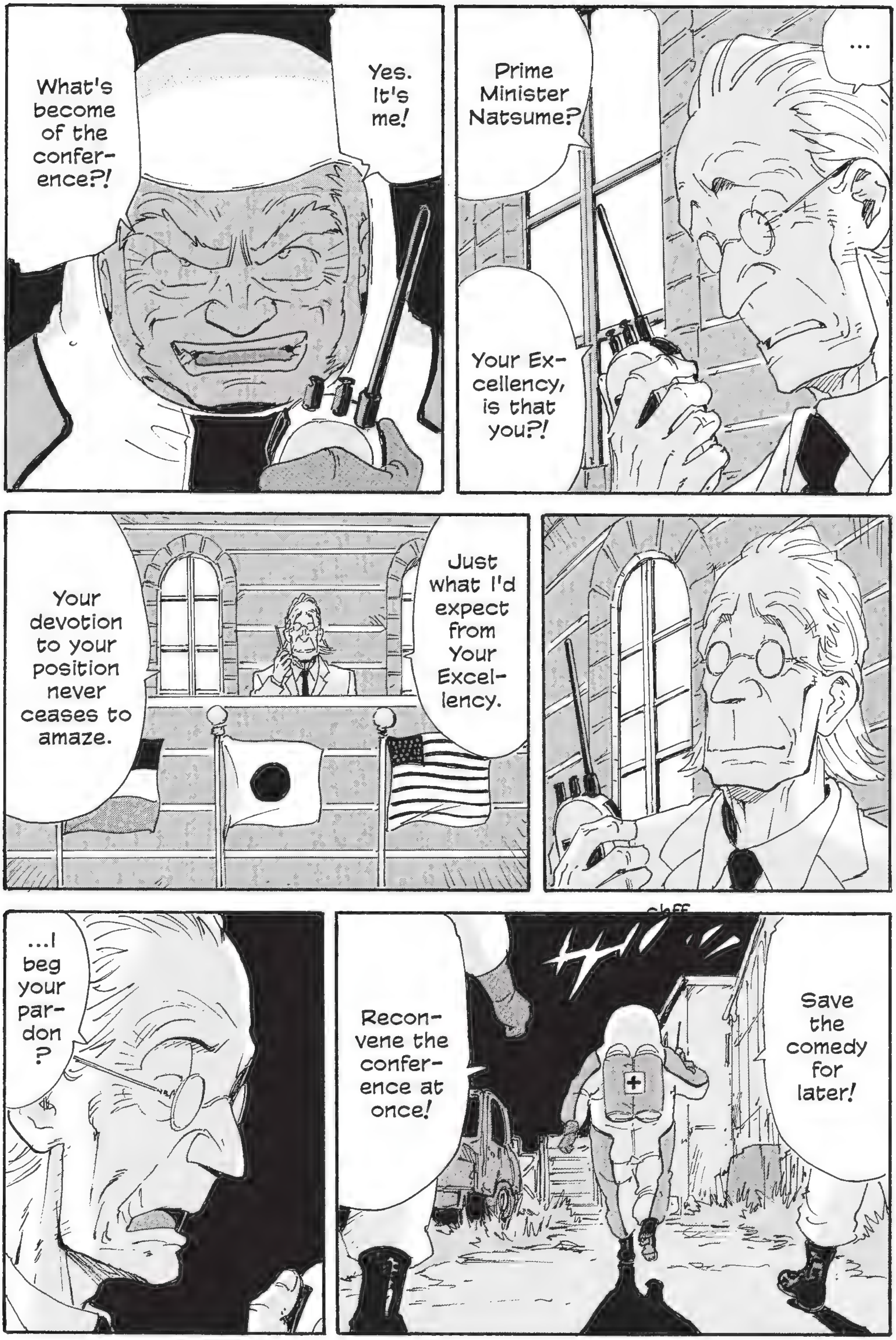

Yes...
Here...
This is the place.
This is Tokyo.
I'm...
Urgh ...!
Ugh... ohh!
...
I'm home, for the first time in twenty years!
CLENCH

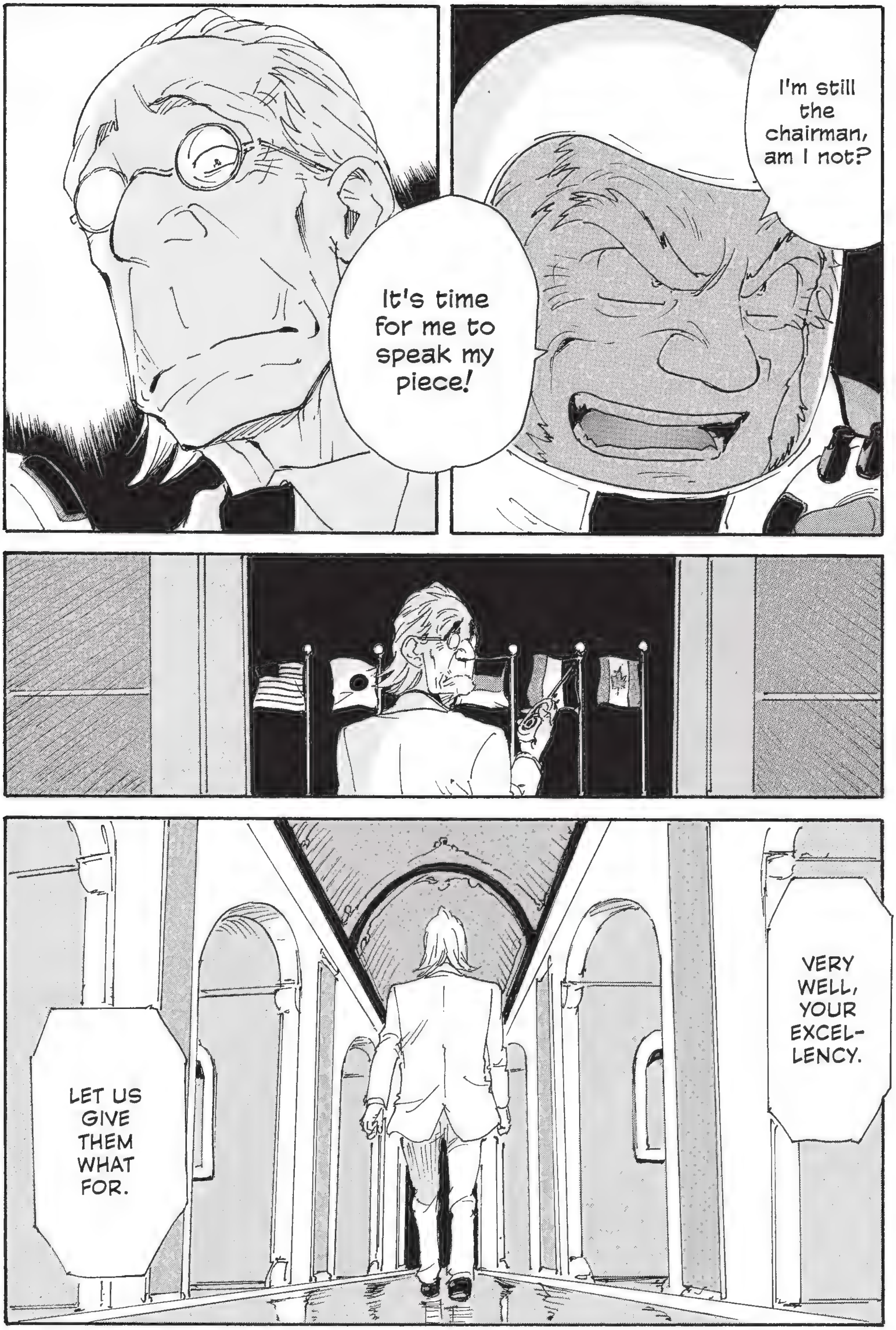

Promise me, Natsume.
Promise me you'll protect Japan.
Protect Japan...!

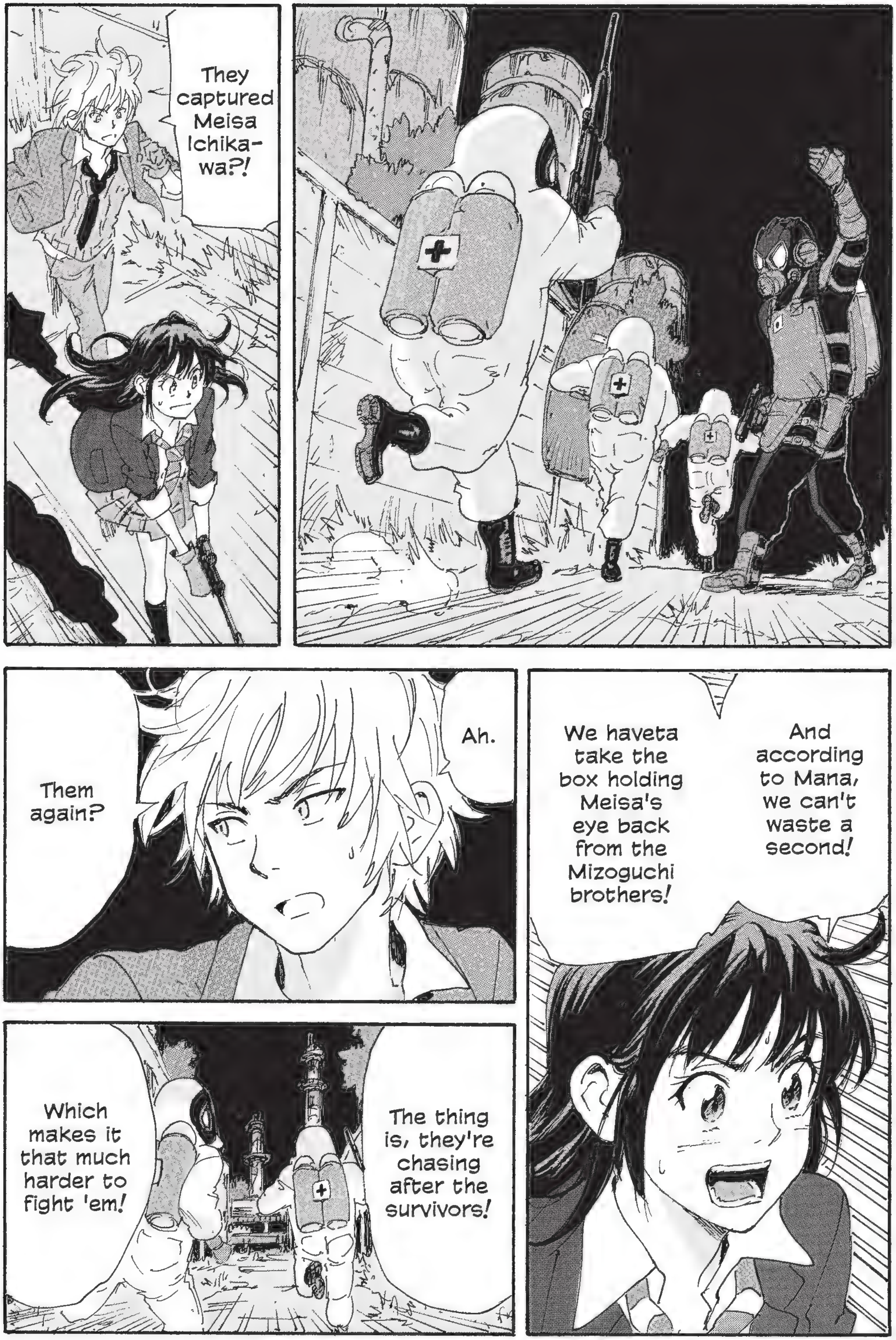

HUFF
HUFF
There you are, you damn jerks!
You frikkin' left us behind!
HUFF
Huh?

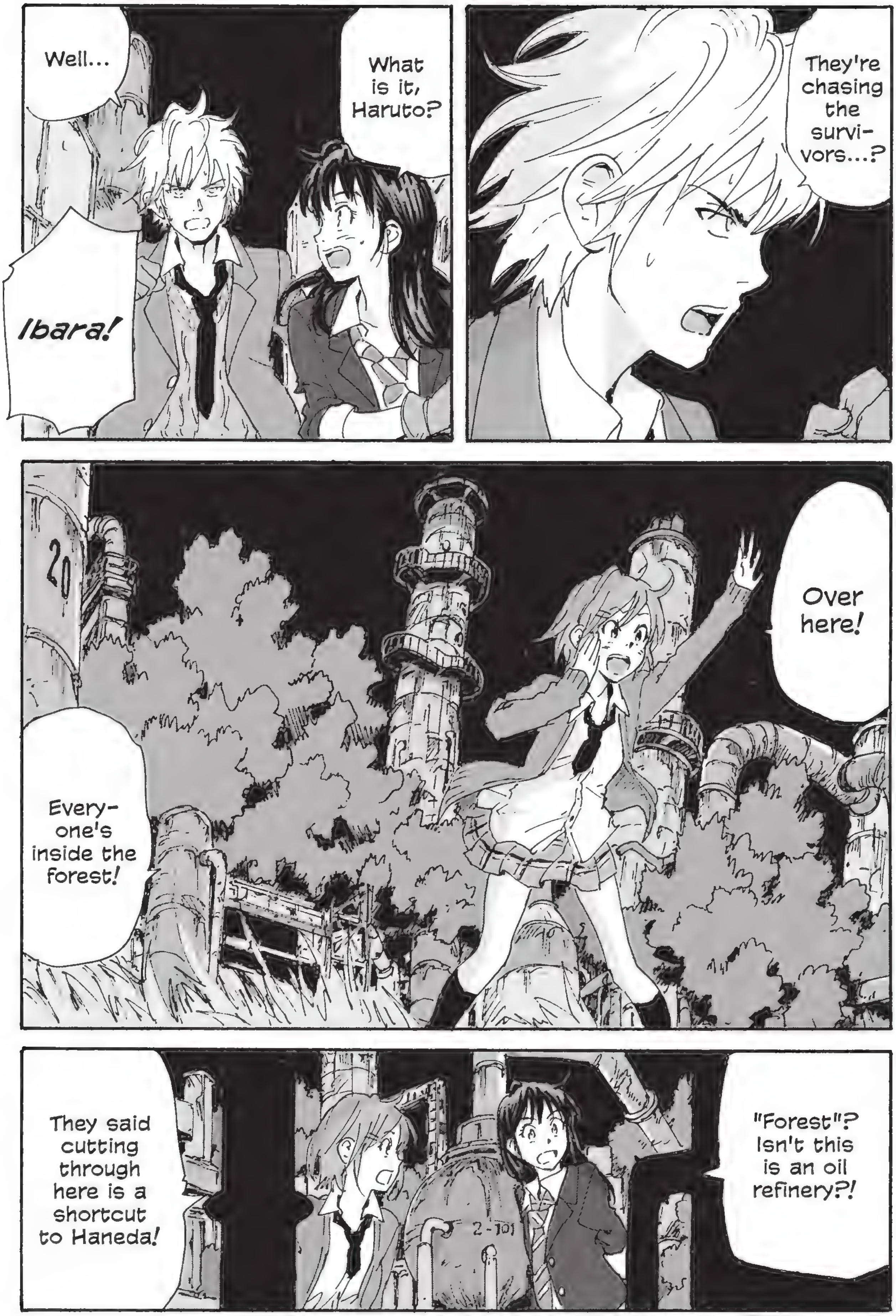

Men...
I do not know if we can make it in time, but...
Will you lend me your aid...
...to save Japan—no, the very world?
Yes, Your Excellency!

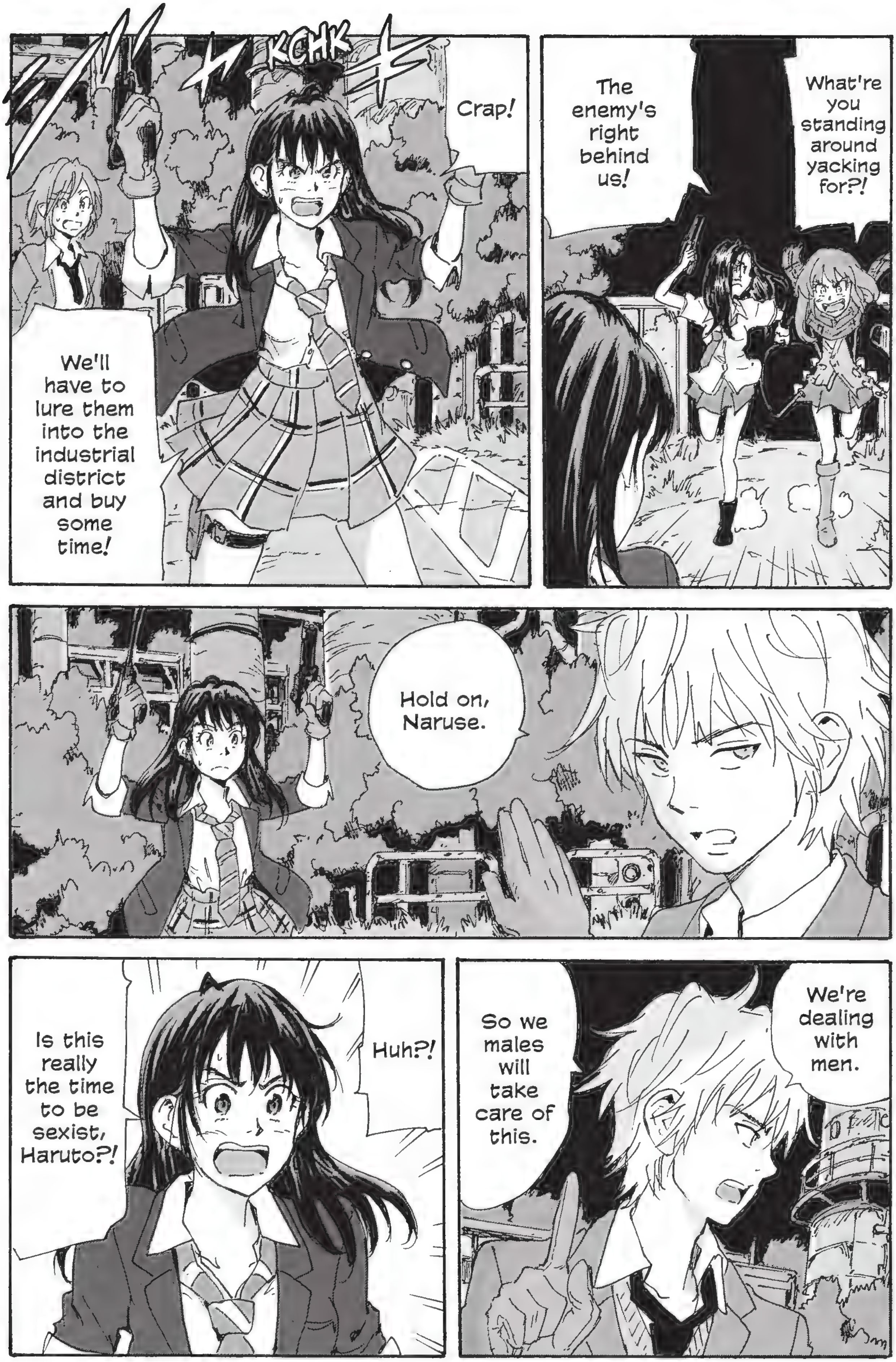

FLAP
OUGAI!
I'M CALLING FROM TOKYO!

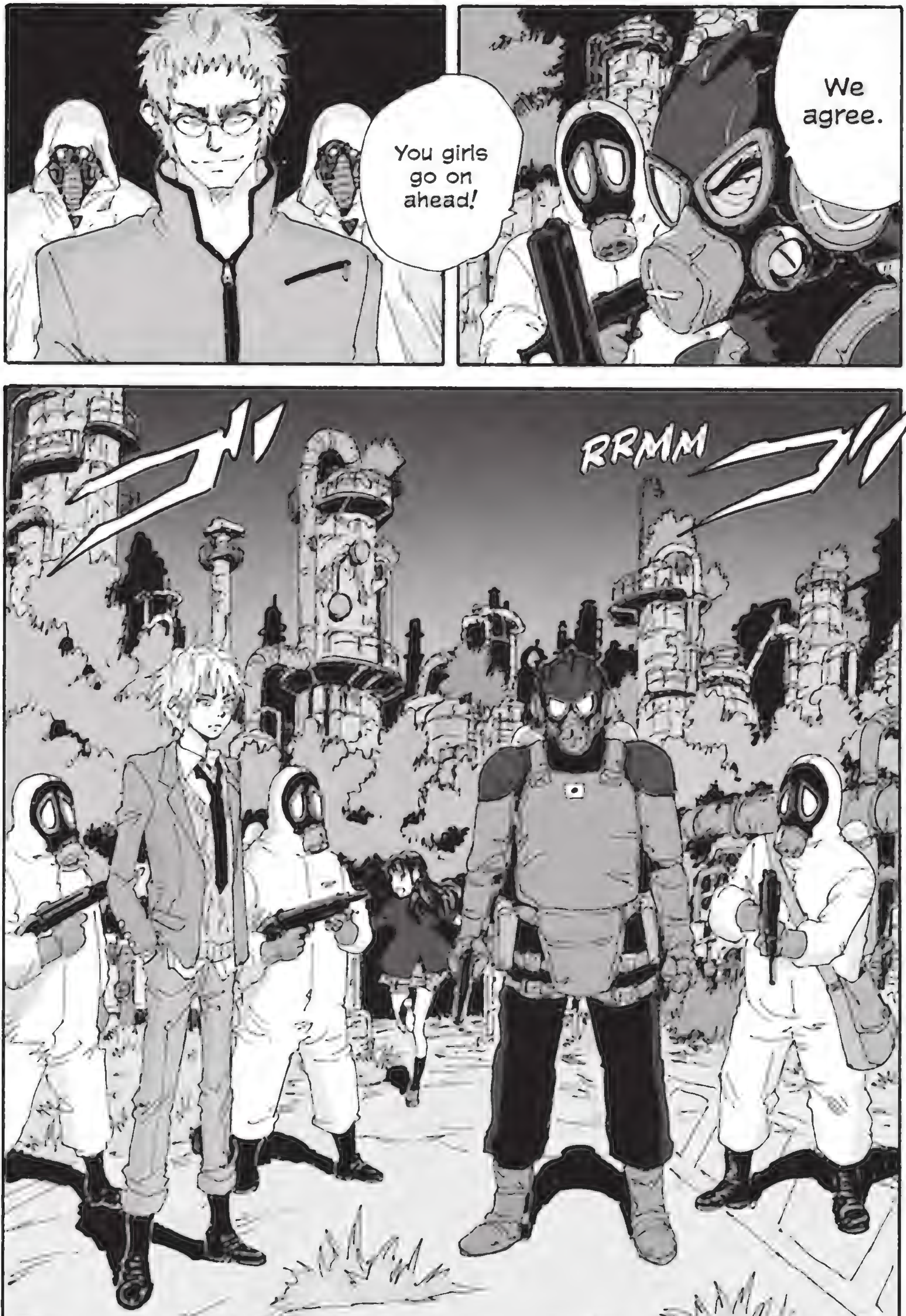

...
Prime Minister Natsume?
Your Excellency, is that you?!
Yes. It's me!
What's become of the conference?!
Just what I'd expect from Your Excellency.
Your devotion to your position never ceases to amaze.
shff
Save the comedy for later!
Reconvene the conference at once!
...I beg your pardon?


I'm still the chairman, am I not?
It's time for me to speak my piece!
VERY WELL, YOUR EXCELLENCY.
LET US GIVE THEM WHAT FOR.

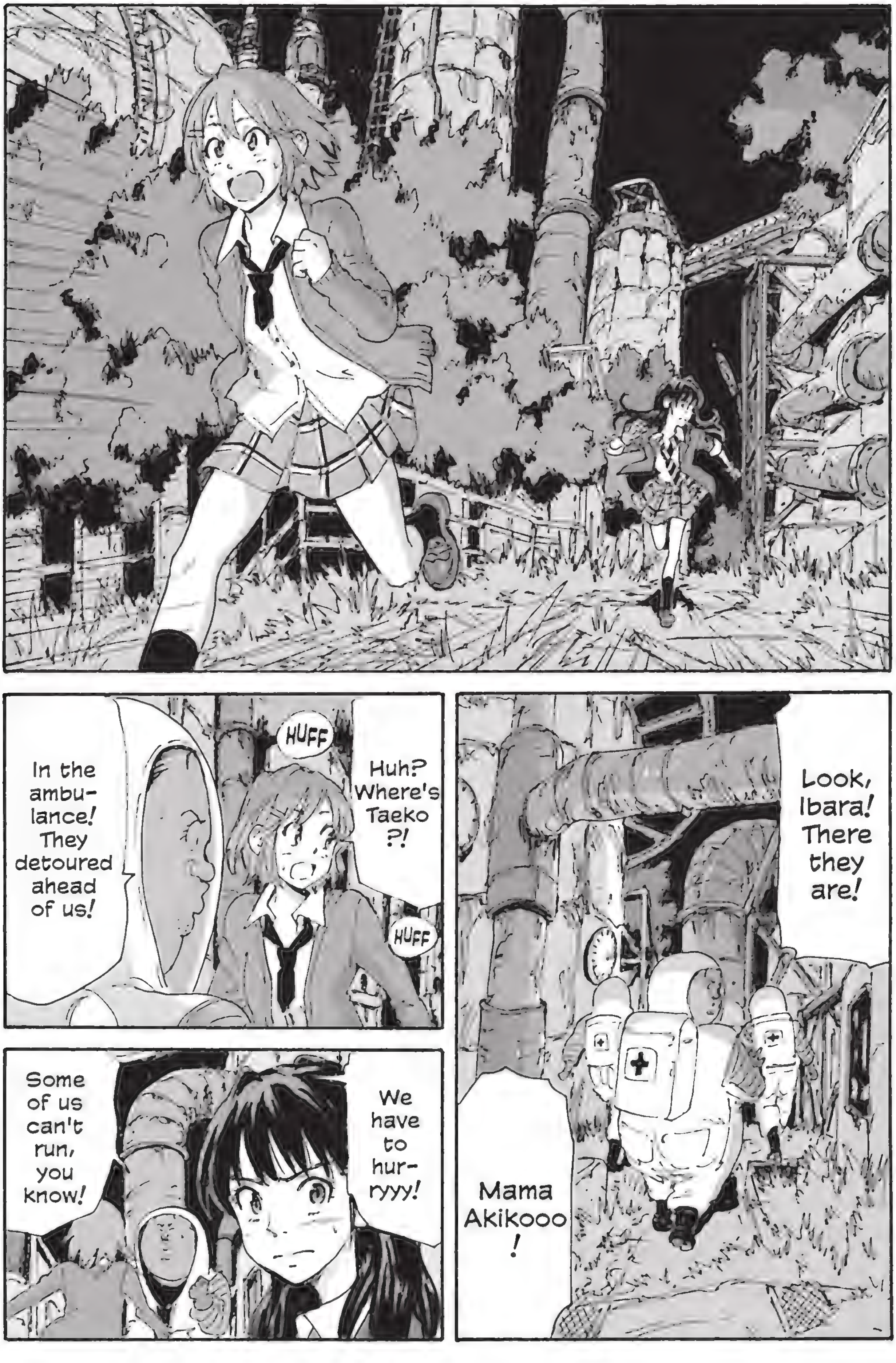

They captured Meisa Ichikawa?!
We haveta take the box holding Meisa's eye back from the Mizoguchi brothers!
And according to Mana, we can't waste a second!
Ah.
Them again?
The thing is, they're chasing after the survivors!
Which makes it that much harder to fight 'em!

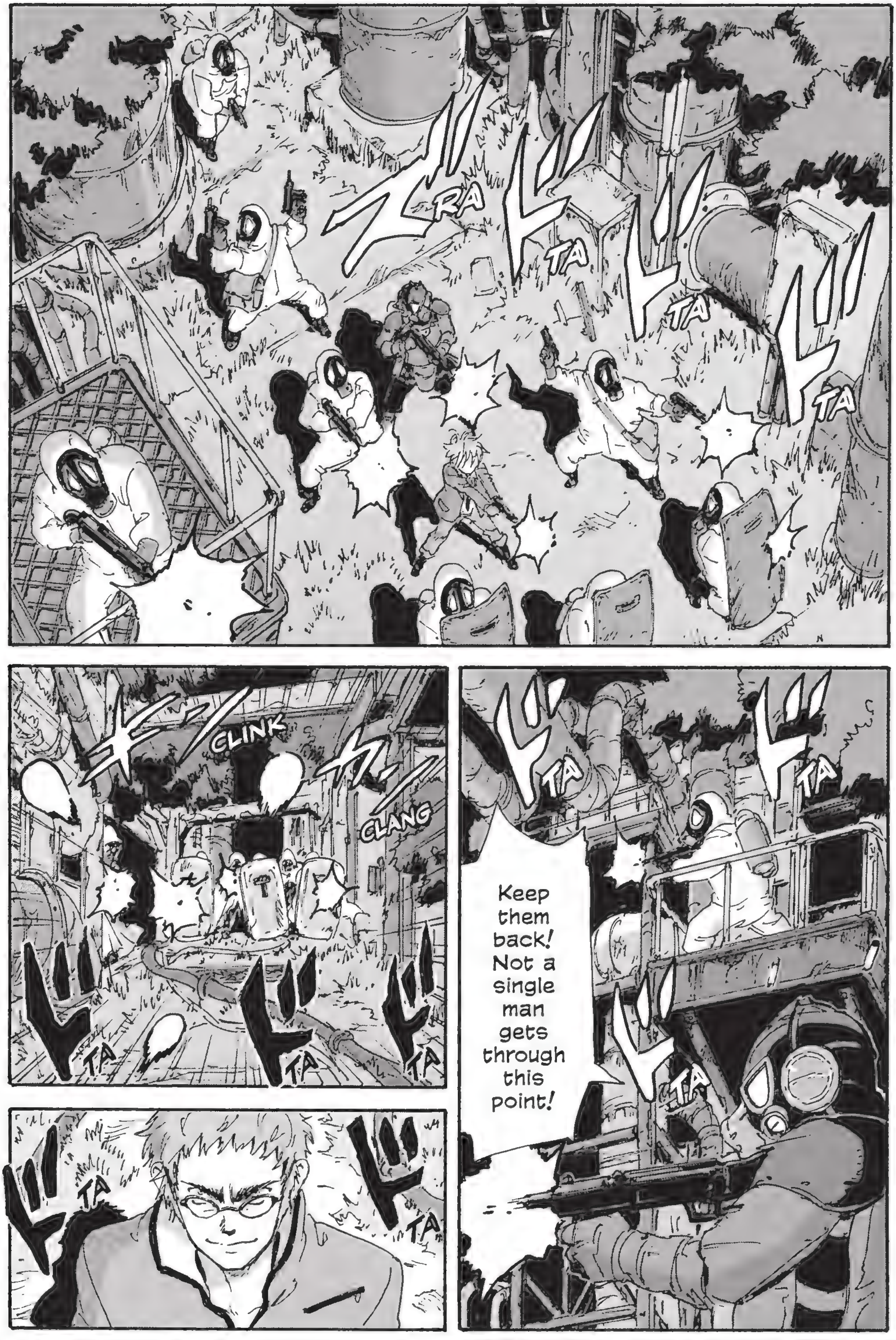

They're chasing the survivors...?
What is it, Haruto?
Well...
Ibara!
Over here!
Everyone's inside the forest!
20
"Forest"? Isn't this is an oil refinery?!
They said cutting through here is a shortcut to Haneda!
2-101

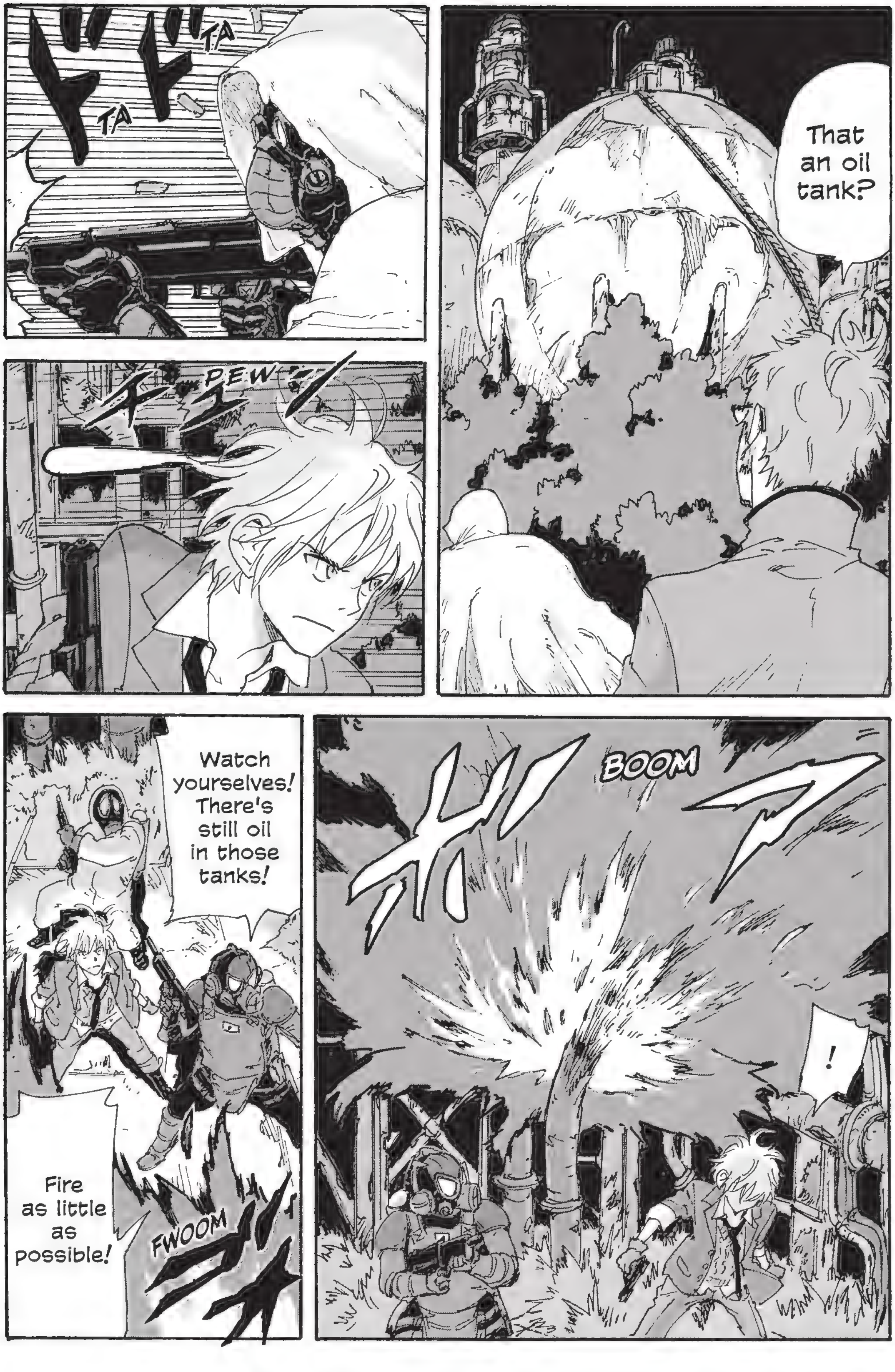

What're you standing around yacking for?!
The enemy's right behind us!
KCHK
Crap!
We'll have to lure them into the industrial district and buy some time!
Hold on, Naruse.
We're dealing with men.
So we males will take care of this.
Huh?!
Is this really the time to be sexist, Haruto?!

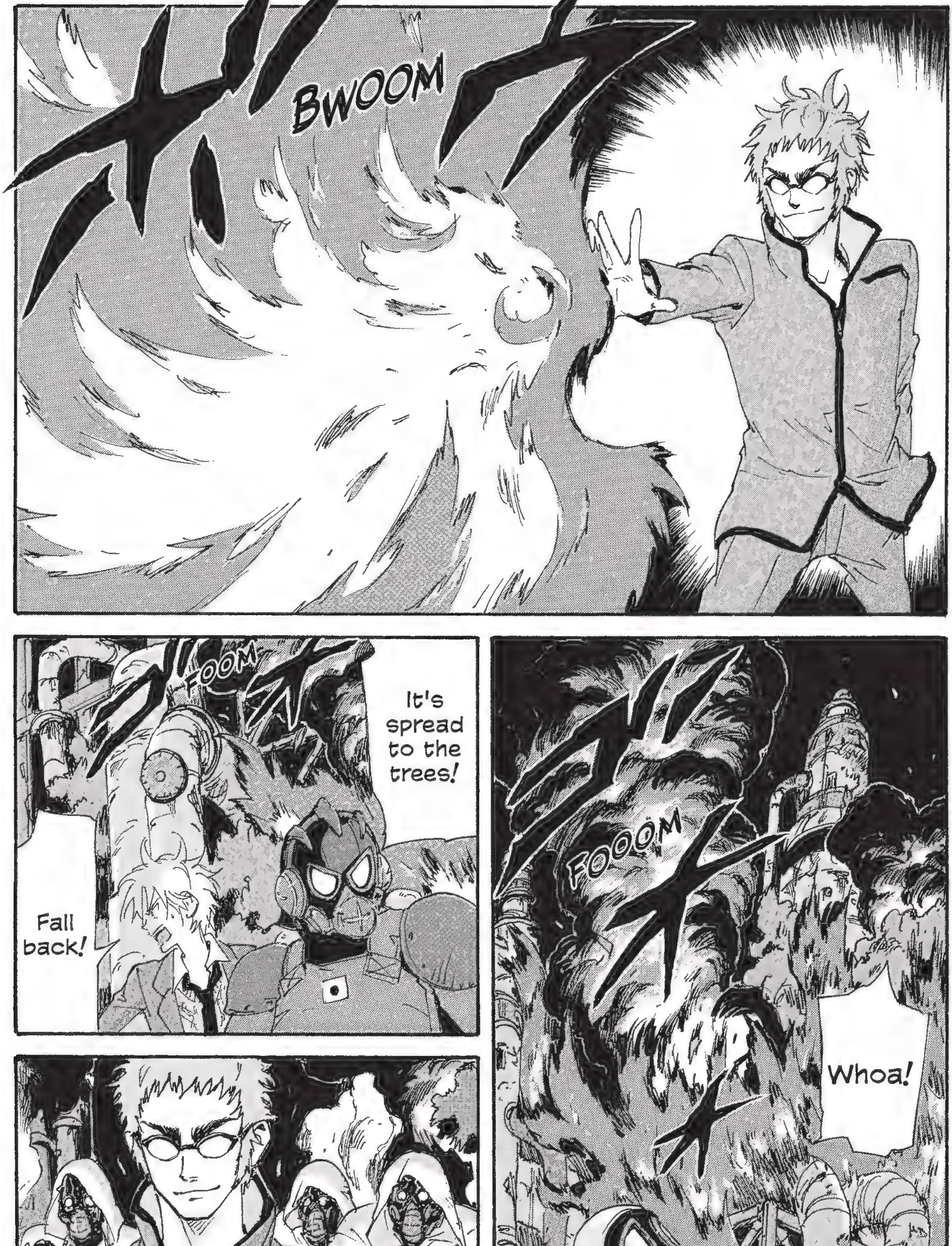

You girls go on ahead!
We agree.
RRMM

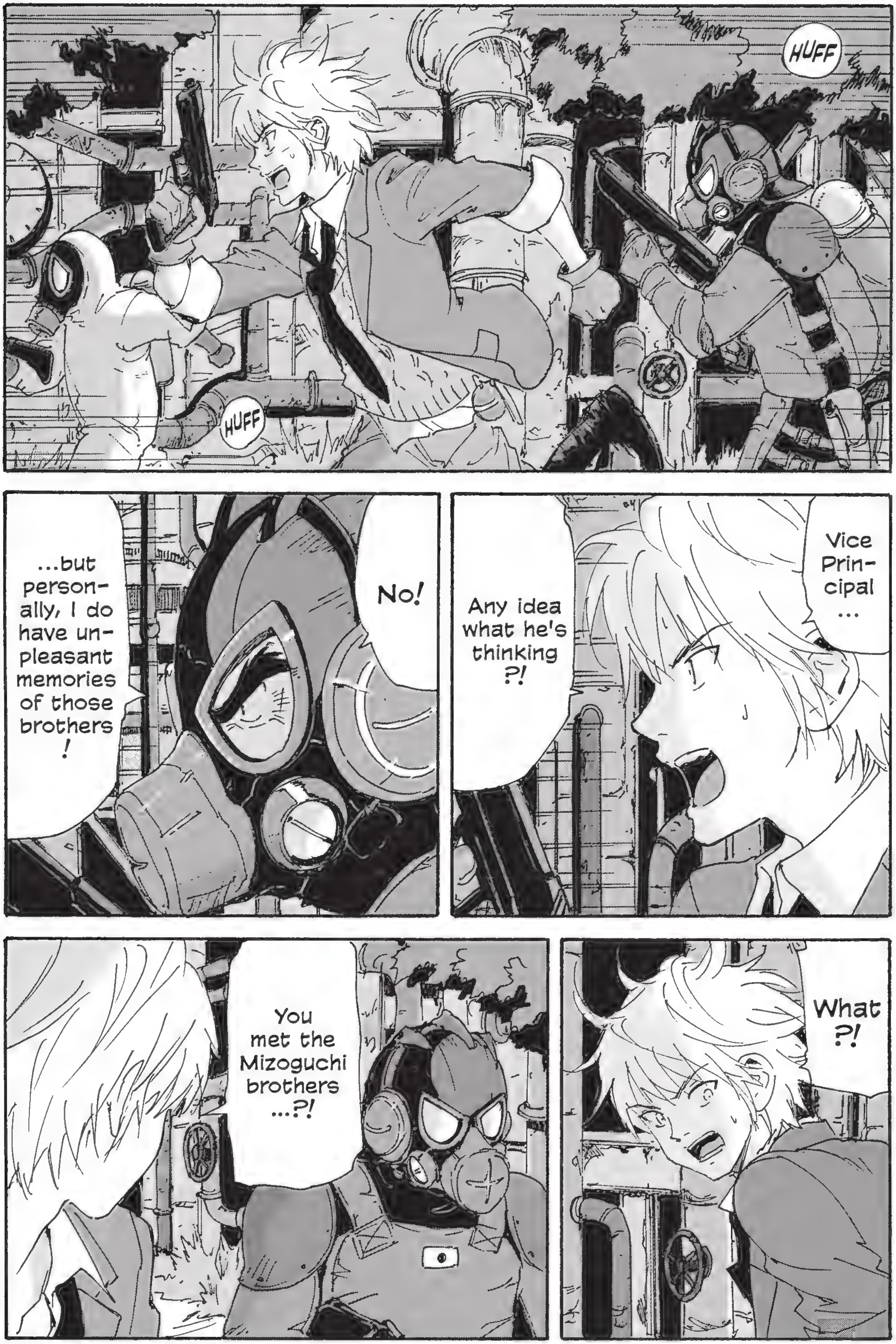
Act.30【Onslaught of Flame】

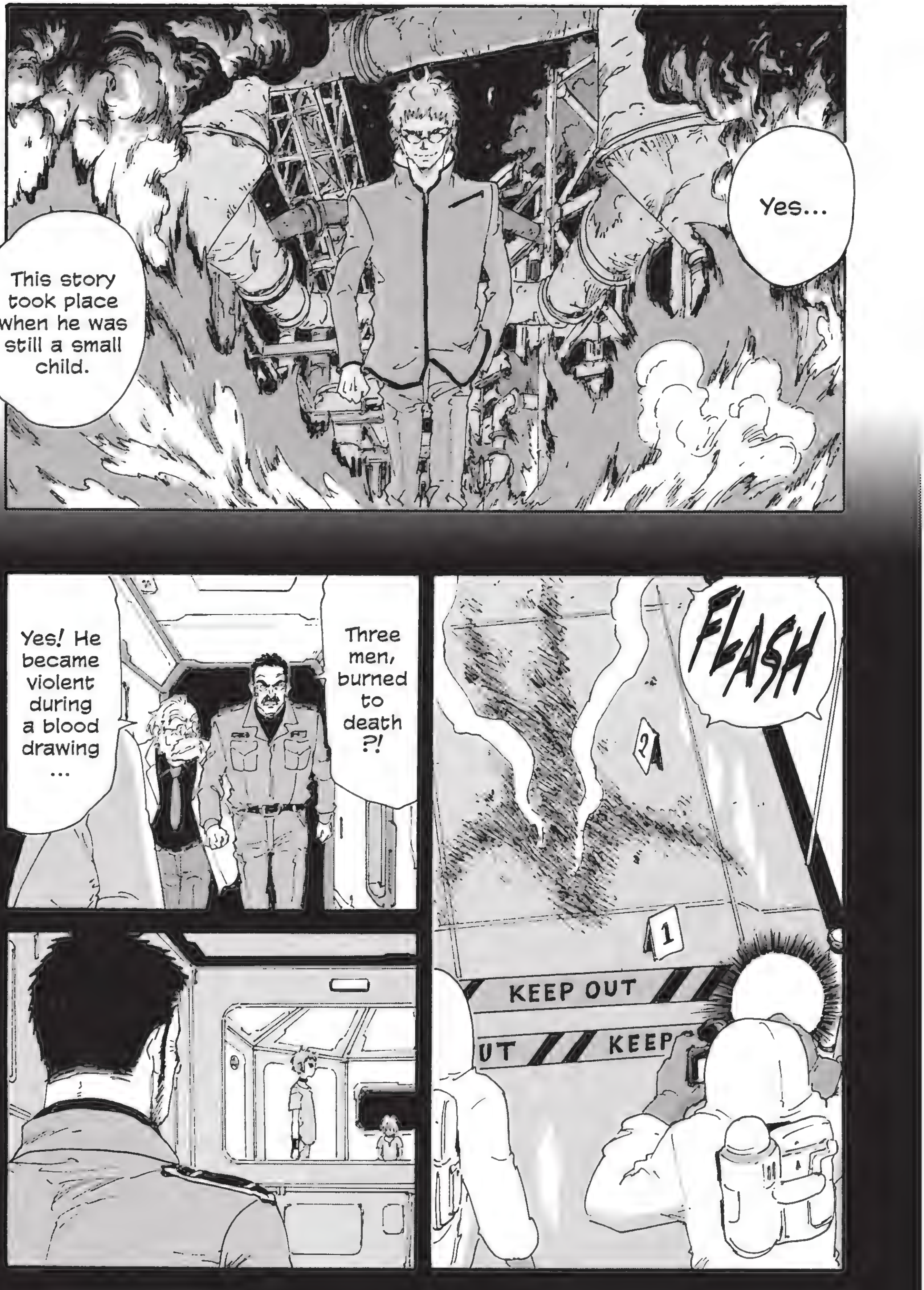

Look, Ibara! There they are!
Mama Akikooo!
HUFF
Huh? Where's Taeko?!
HUFF
In the ambulance! They detoured ahead of us!
We have to hurryyy!
Some of us can't run, you know!

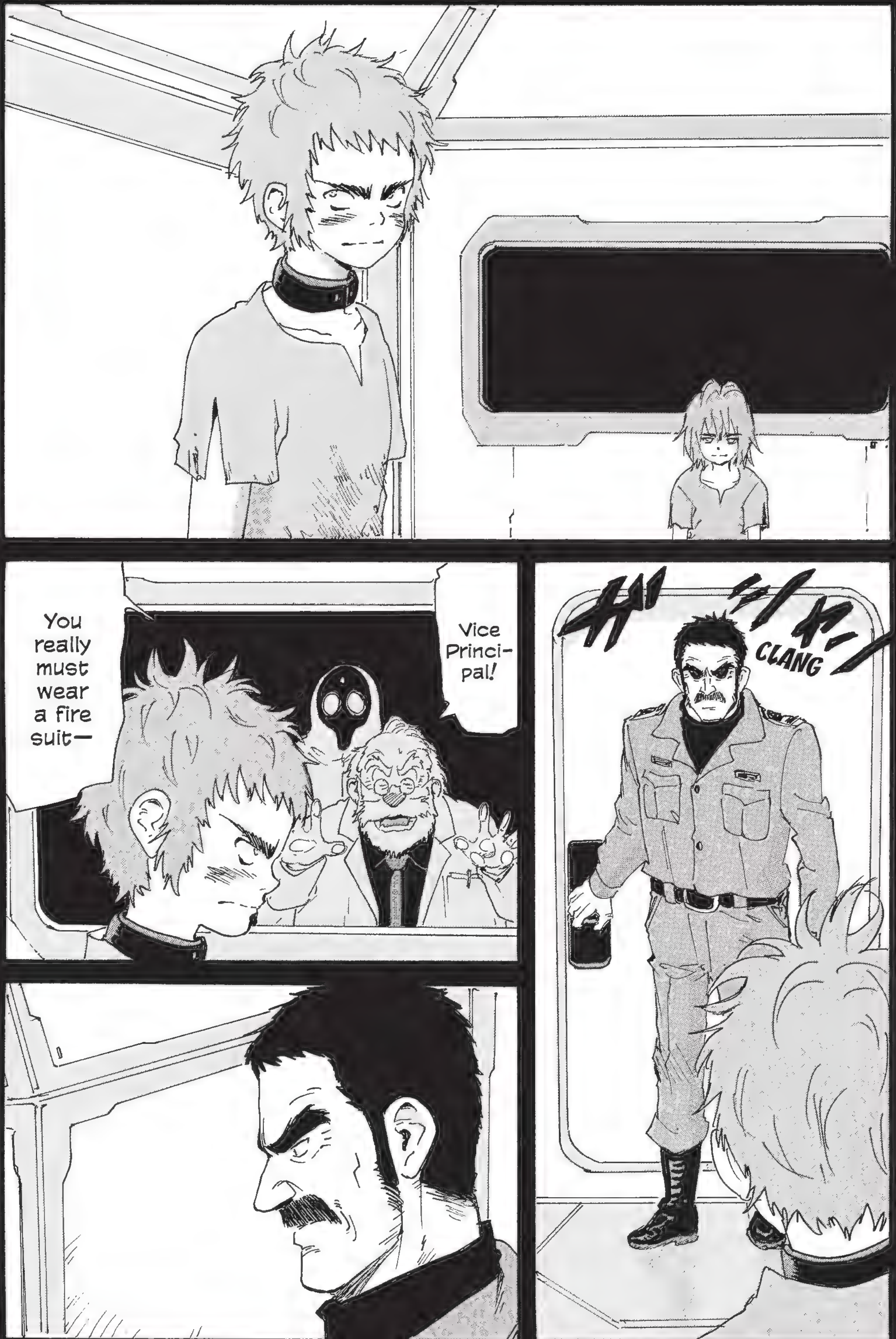

RA
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
Keep them back! Not a single man gets through this point!
TA
TA
CLINK
CLANG
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA

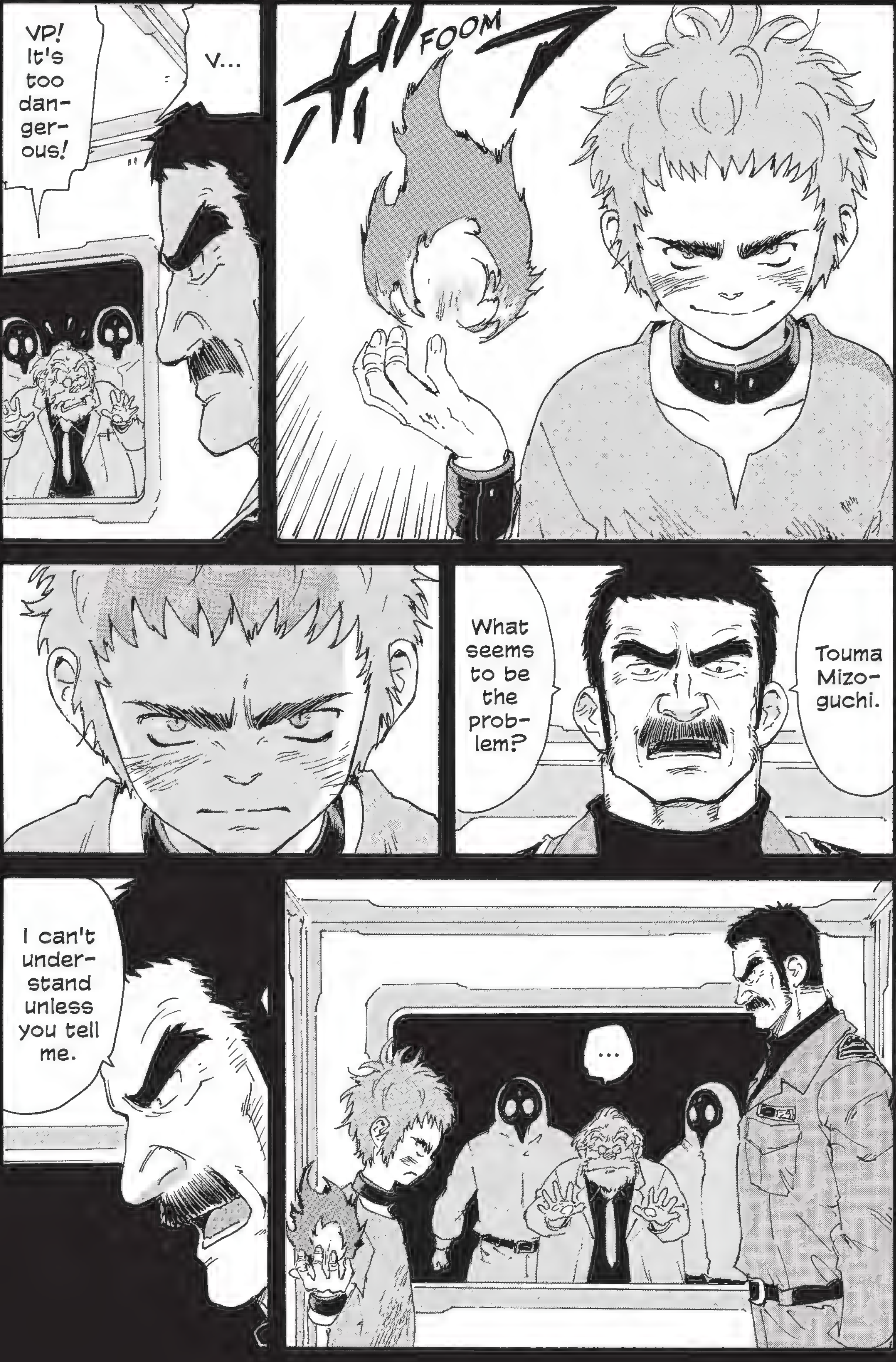

That an oil tank?
TA
TA
PEW
BOOM
!
Watch yourselves! There's still oil in those tanks!
Fire as little as possible!
FWOOM

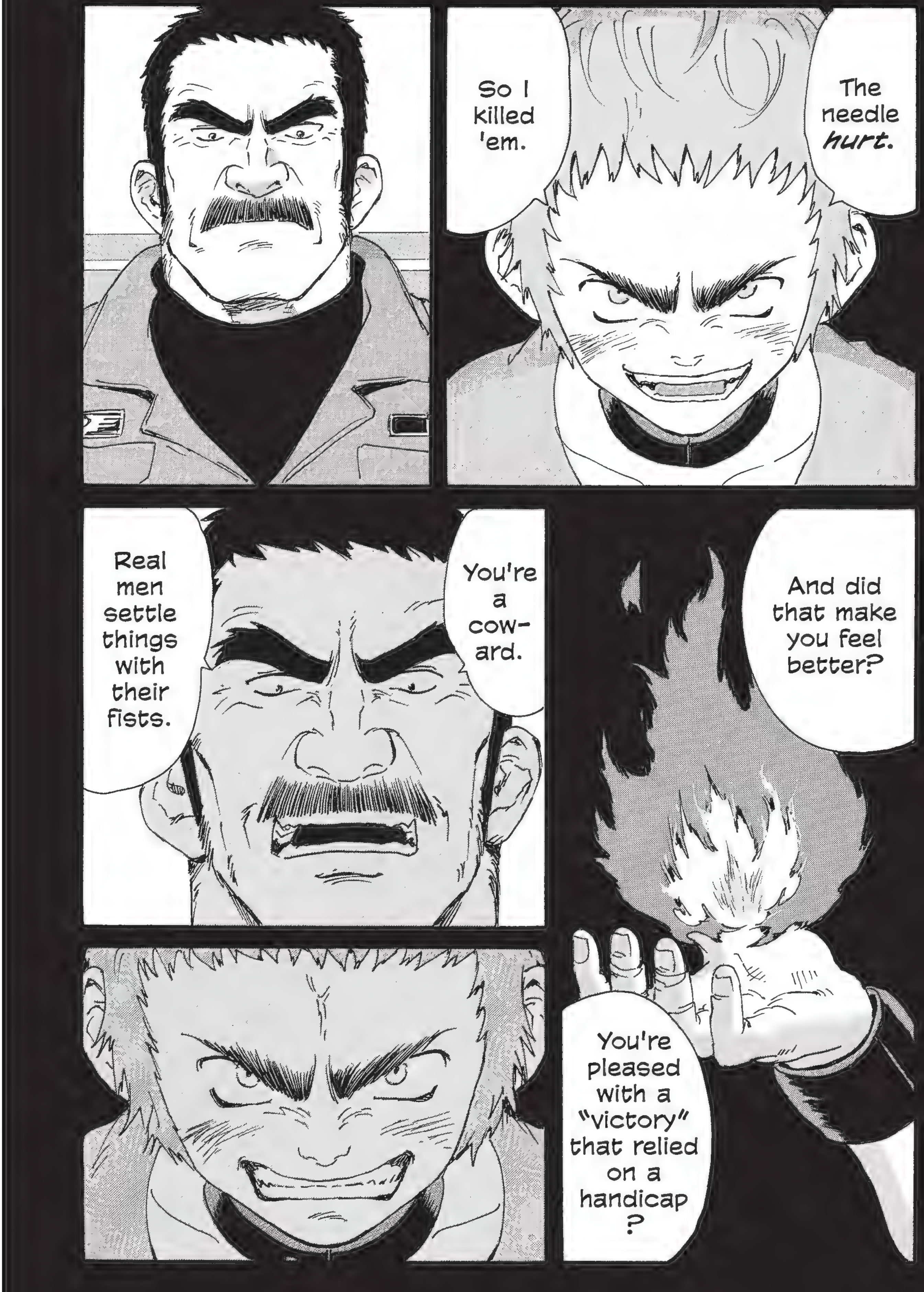

BWOOM
FOOOM
Whoa!
FOOM
It's spread to the trees!
Fall back!

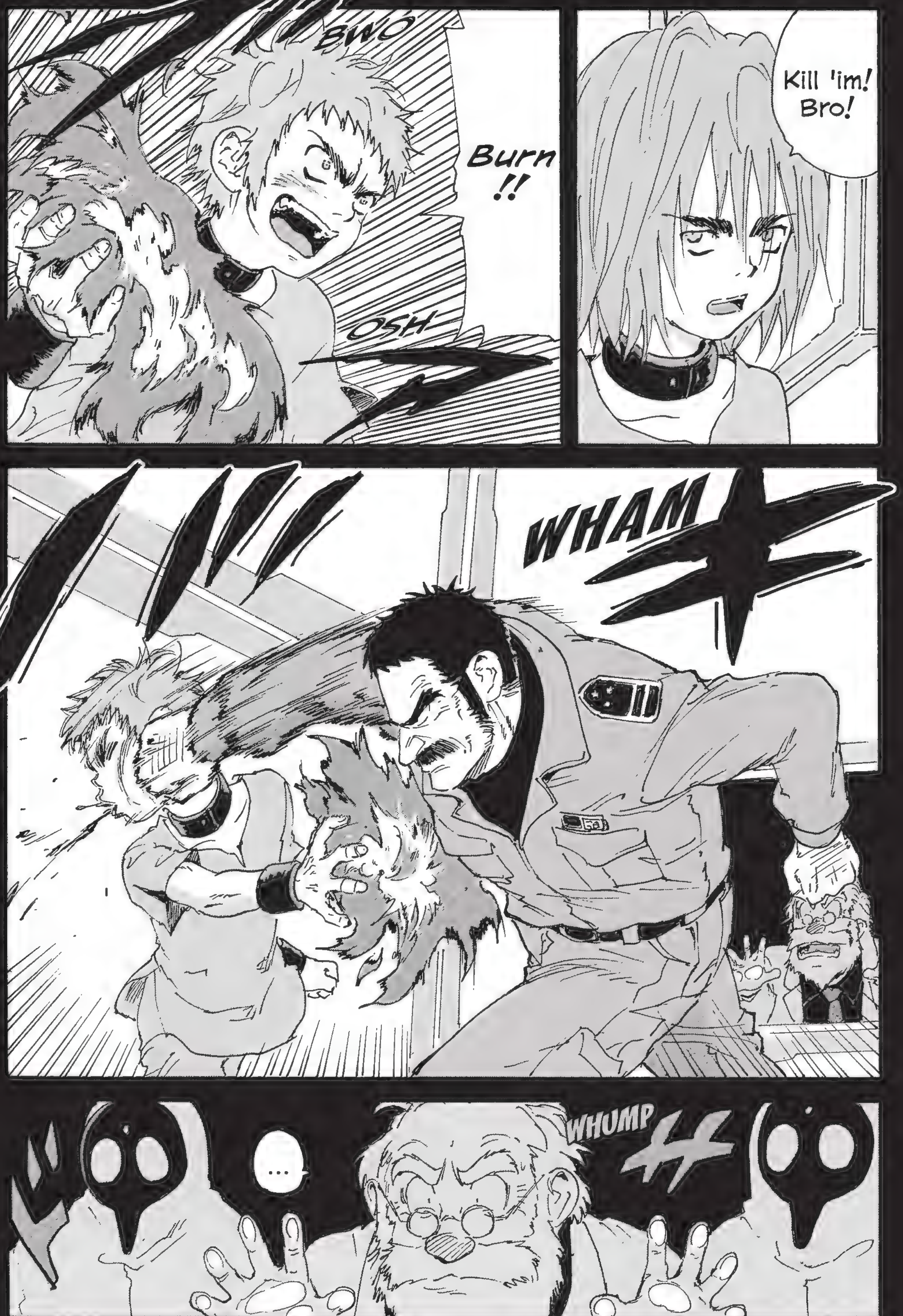

HUFF
HUFF
Vice Principal...
Any idea what he's thinking?!
No!
...but personally, I do have unpleasant memories of those brothers!
What?!
You met the Mizoguchi brothers...?!

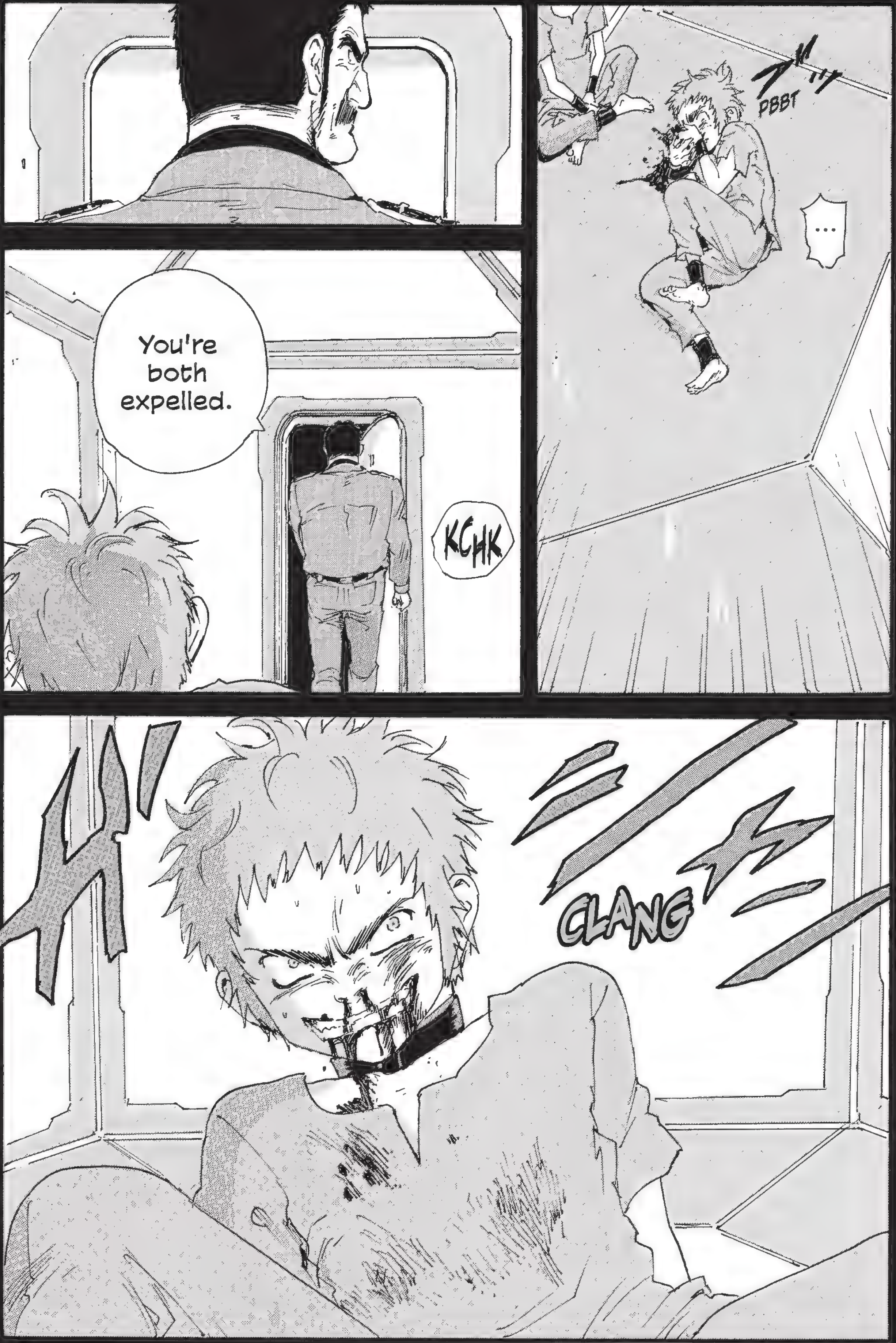

Yes...
This story took place when he was still a small child.
FLASH
Three men, burned to death ?!
Yes! He became violent during a blood drawing ...
KEEP OUT
UT KEEP

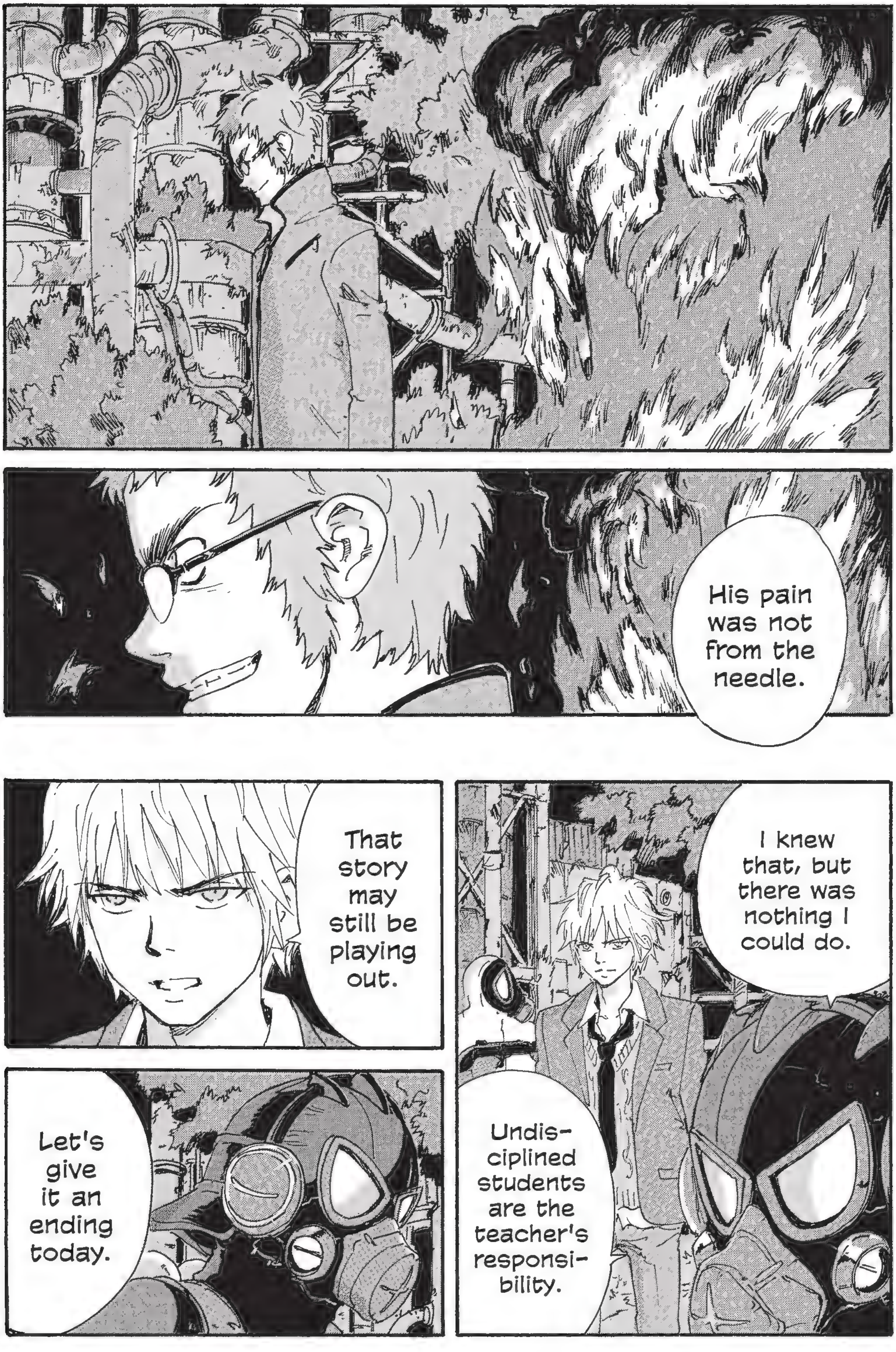

CLANG
Vice Principal!
You really must wear a fire suit—

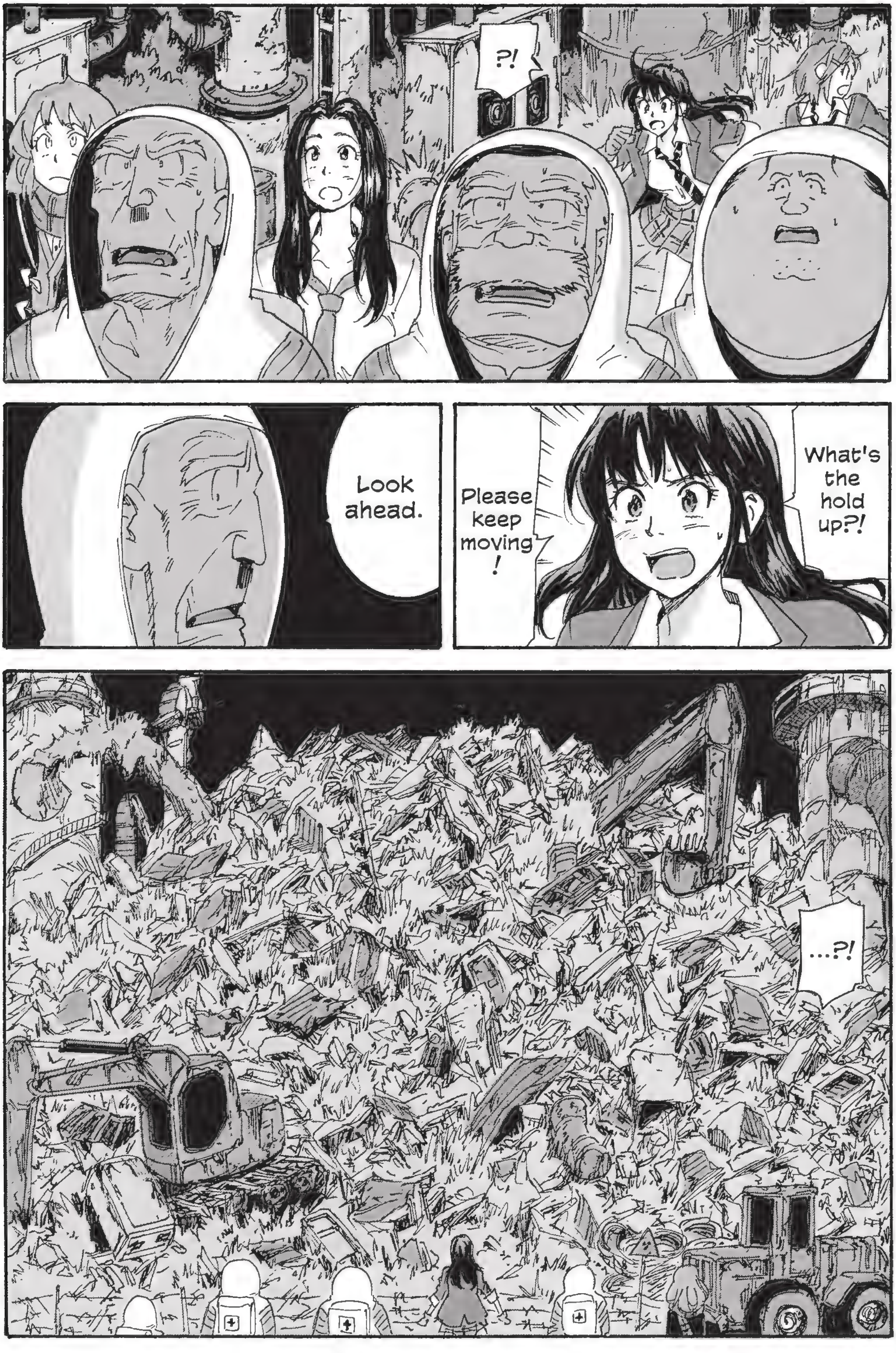

FOOM
V...
VP! It's too dangerous!
Touma Mizoguchi.
What seems to be the problem?
...
I can't understand unless you tell me.

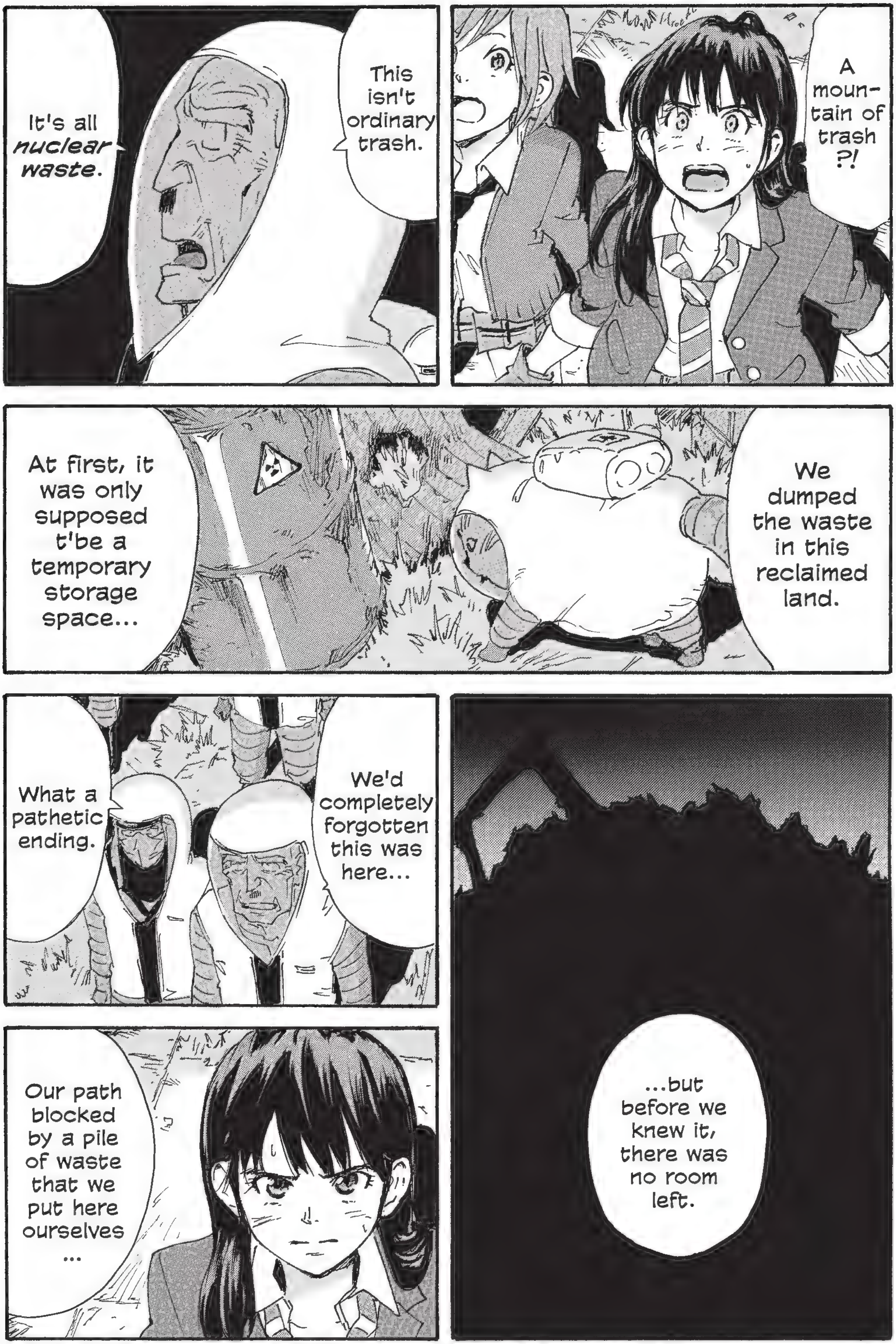

The needle *hurt*.
So I killed 'em.
And did that make you feel better?
You're a coward.
Real men settle things with their fists.
You're pleased with a "victory" that relied on a handicap?

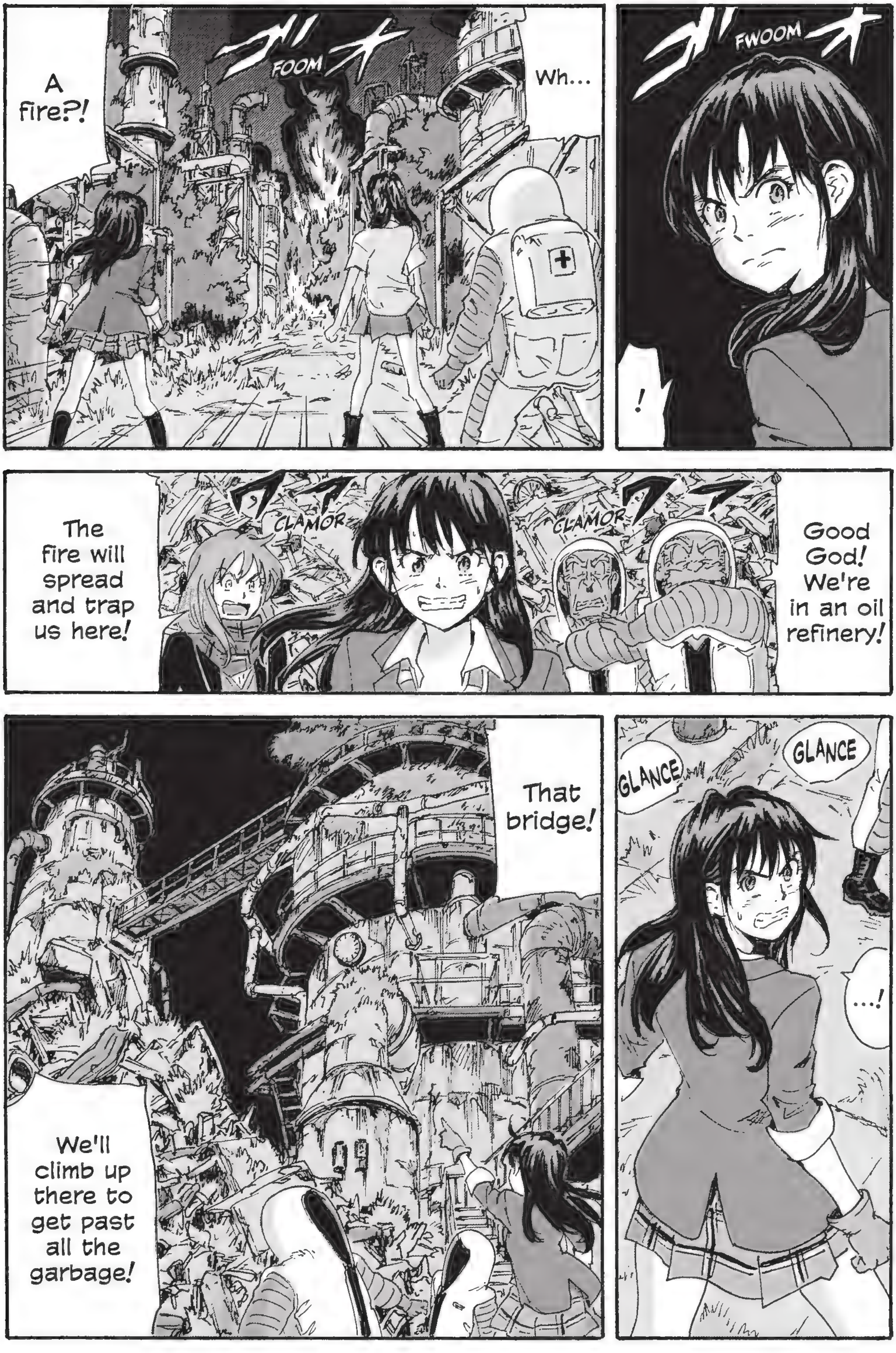

Kill 'im! Bro!
BWO
Burn !!
OSH
WHAM
WHUMP
...

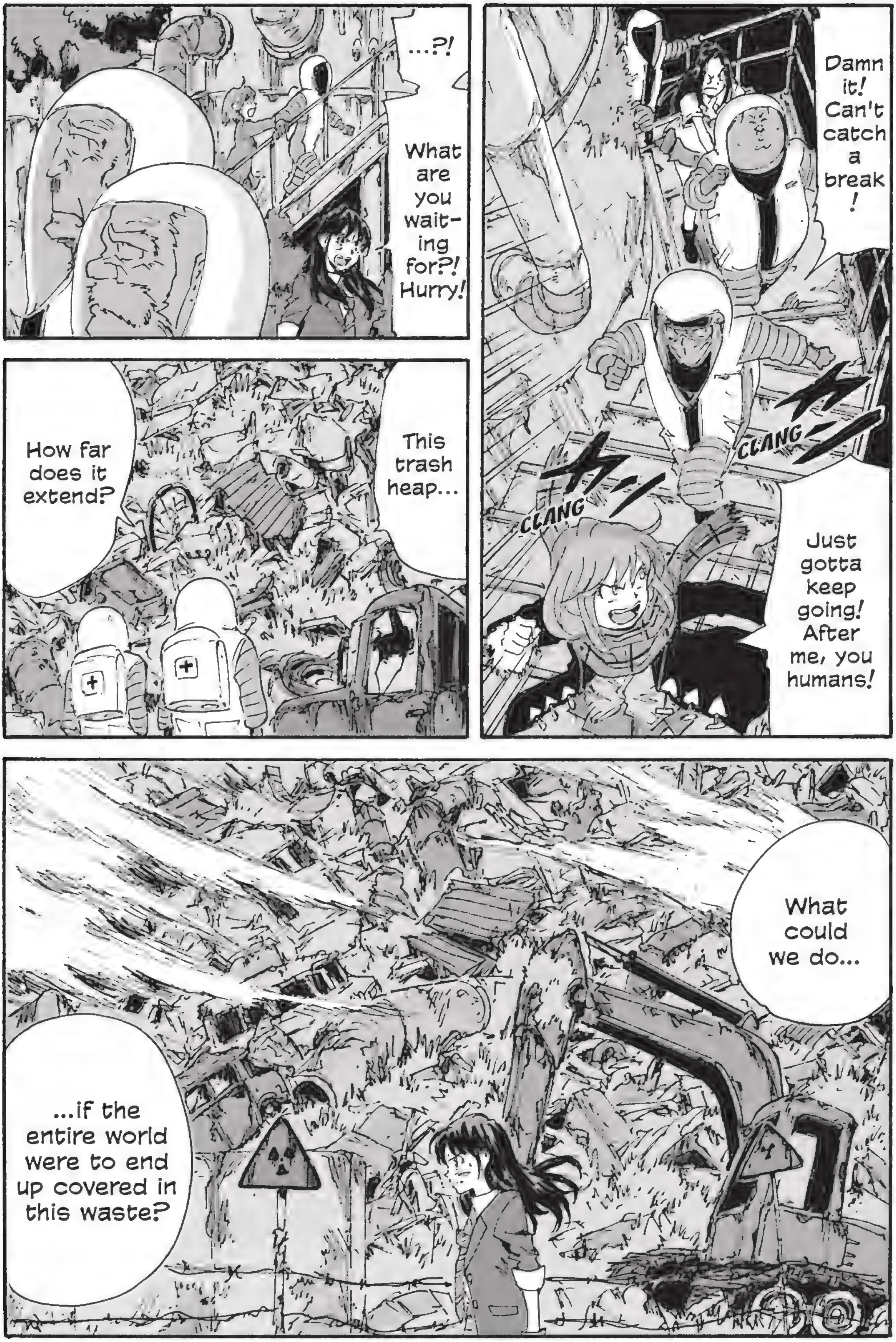

You're both expelled.
KCHK
ブッ
PBBT
...
CLANG

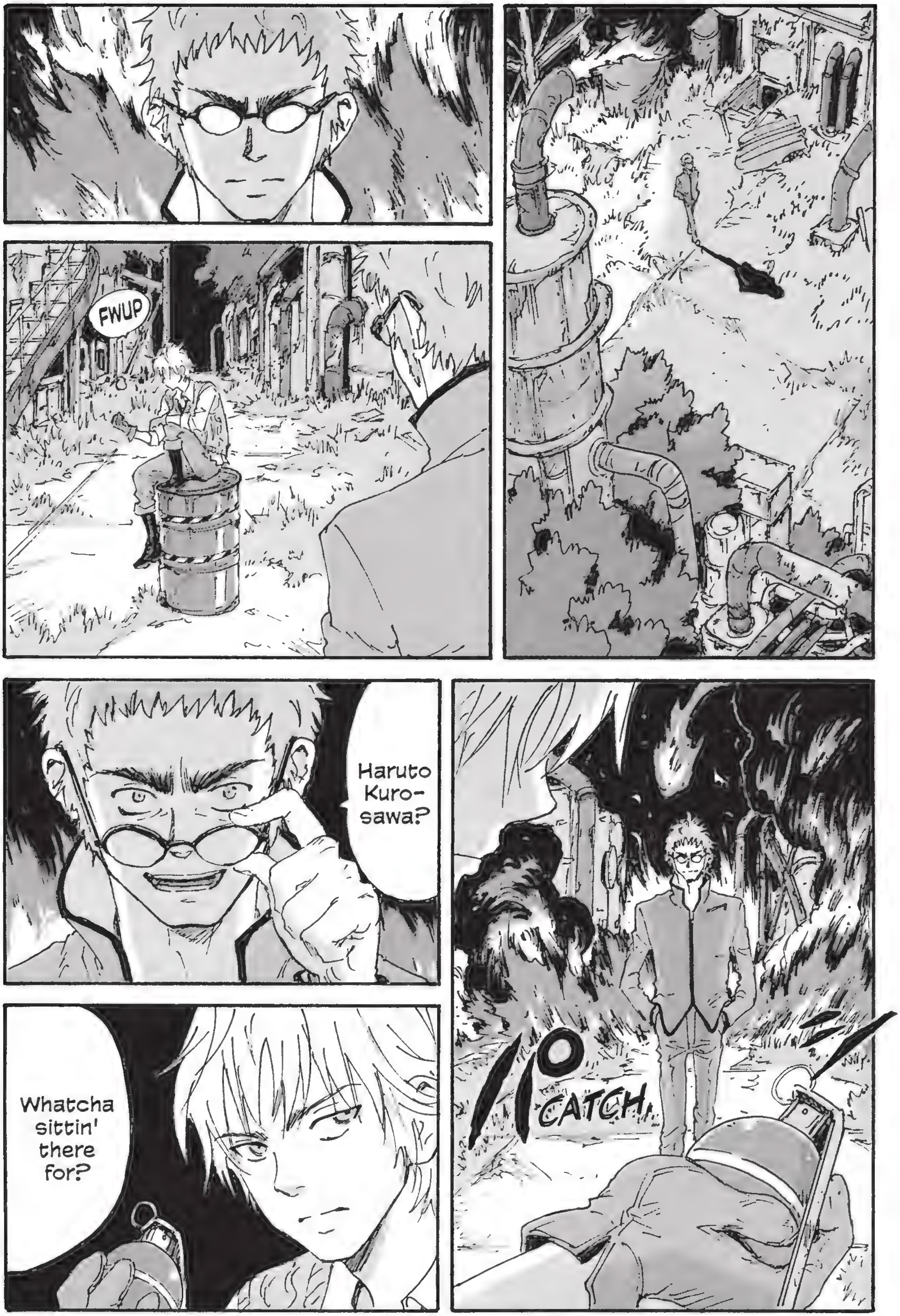

His pain was not from the needle.
I knew that, but there was nothing I could do.
That story may still be playing out.
Undisciplined students are the teacher's responsibility.
Let's give it an ending today.

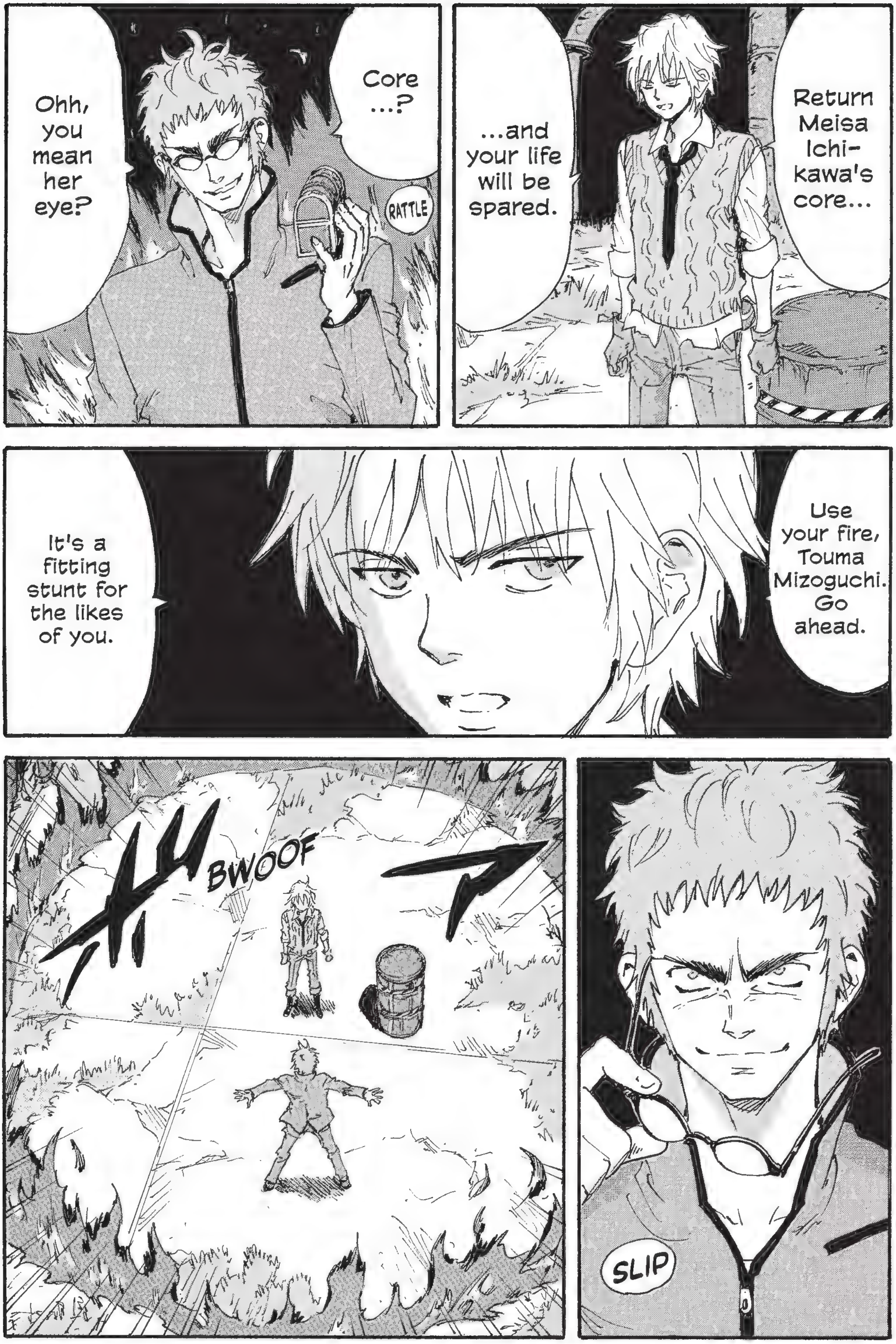

?!
What's the hold up?!
Please keep moving!
Look ahead.
...?!

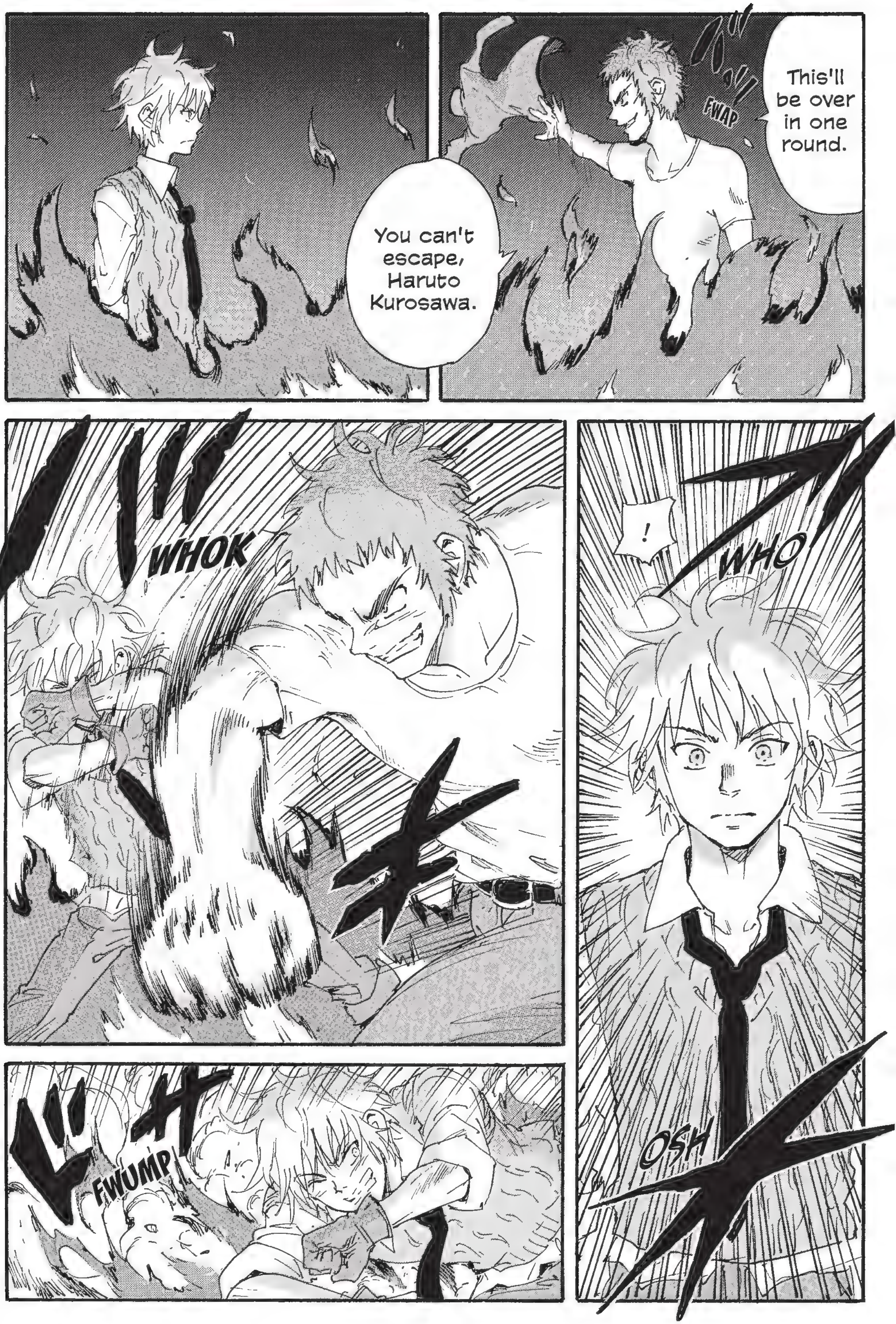

A mountain of trash?!
This isn't ordinary trash.
It's all *nuclear waste*.
We dumped the waste in this reclaimed land.
At first, it was only supposed t'be a temporary storage space...
...but before we knew it, there was no room left.
We'd completely forgotten this was here...
What a pathetic ending.
Our path blocked by a pile of waste that we put here ourselves...

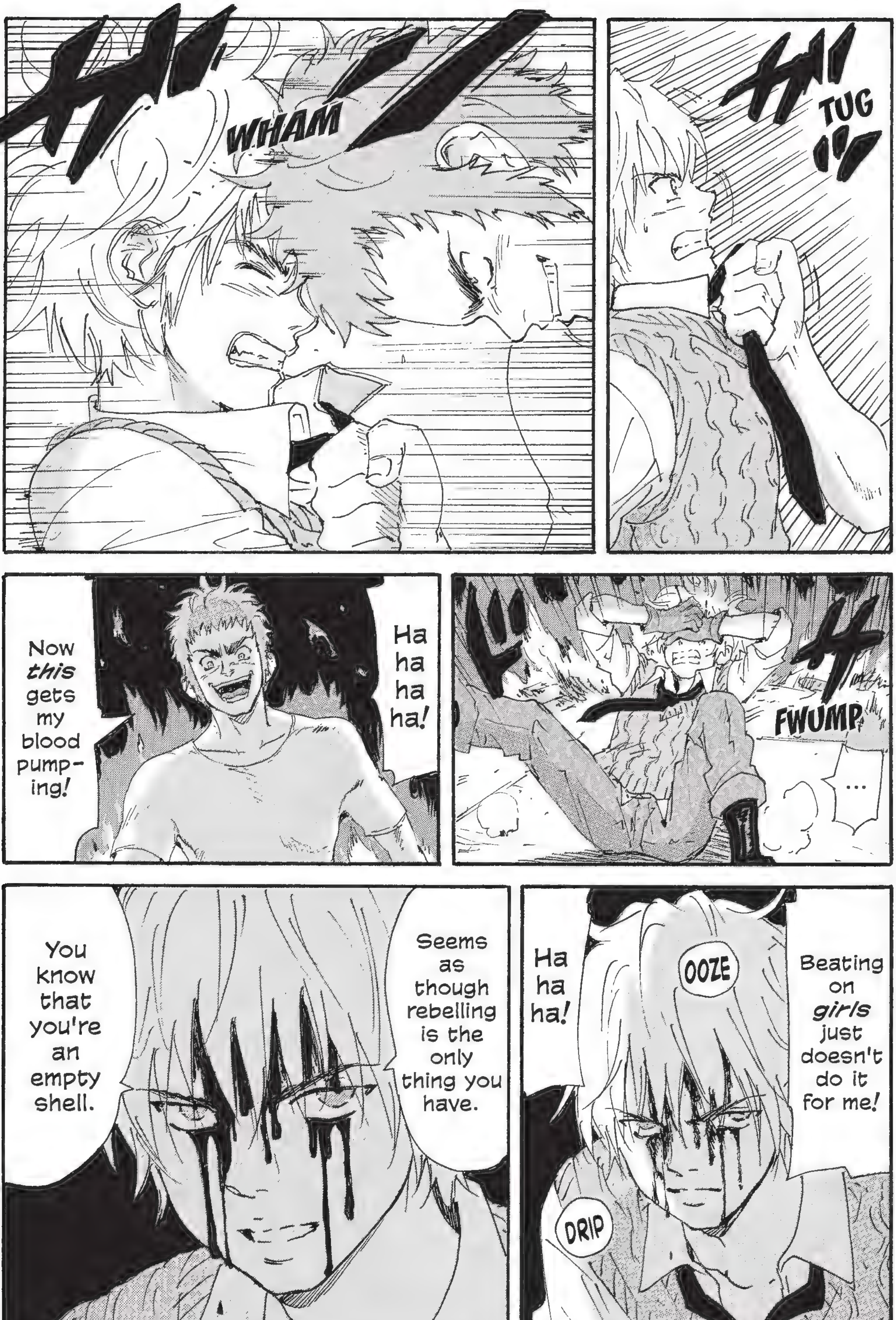

FWOOM
!
FOOM
Wh...
A fire?!
CLAMOR
CLAMOR
Good God! We're in an oil refinery!
The fire will spread and trap us here!
GLANCE
GLANCE
...!
That bridge!
We'll climb up there to get past all the garbage!

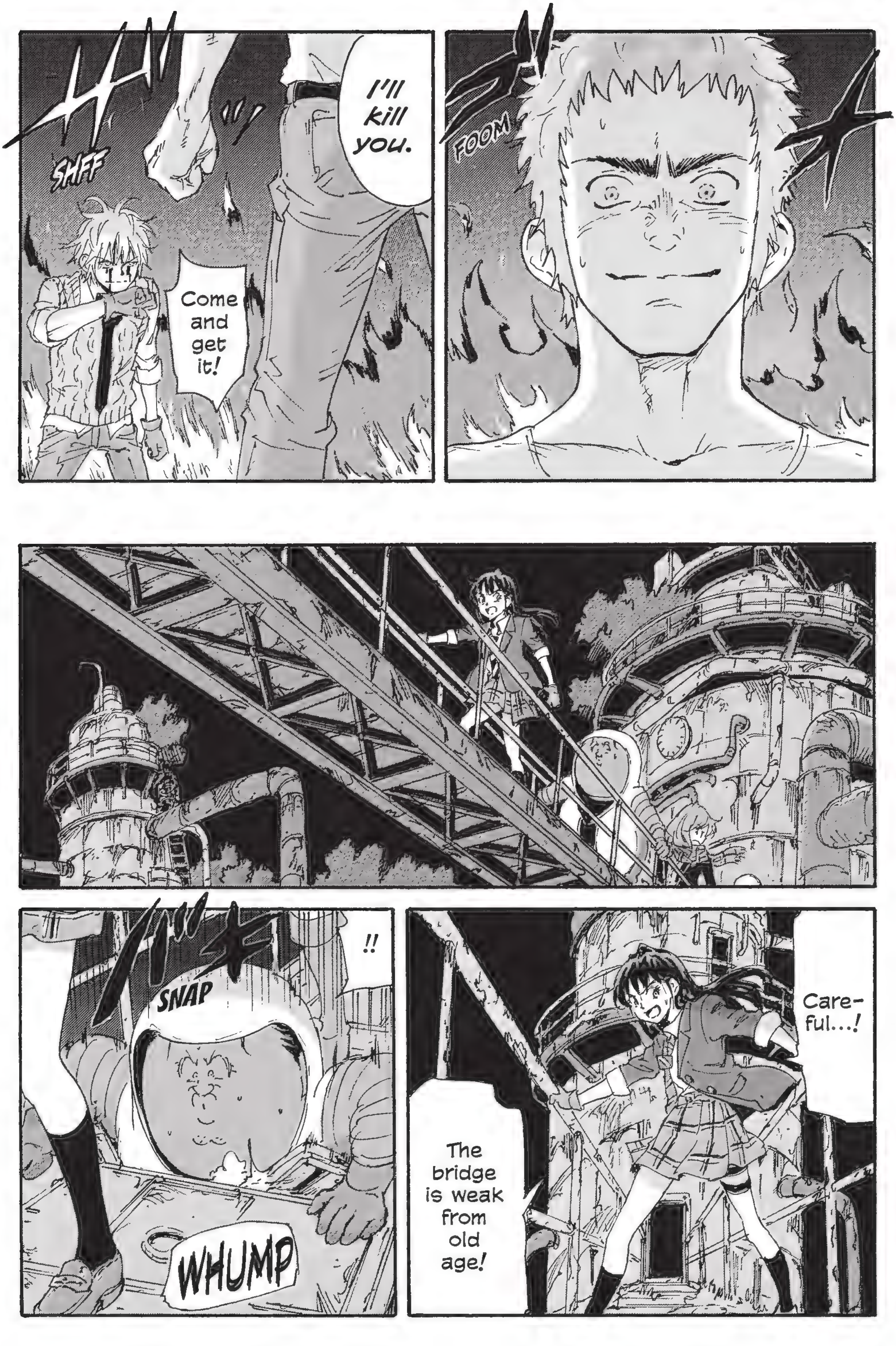

Damn it! Can't catch a break!
Just gotta keep going! After me, you humans!
CLANG
CLANG
...?!
What are you waiting for?! Hurry!
This trash heap...
How far does it extend?
What could we do...
...if the entire world were to end up covered in this waste?

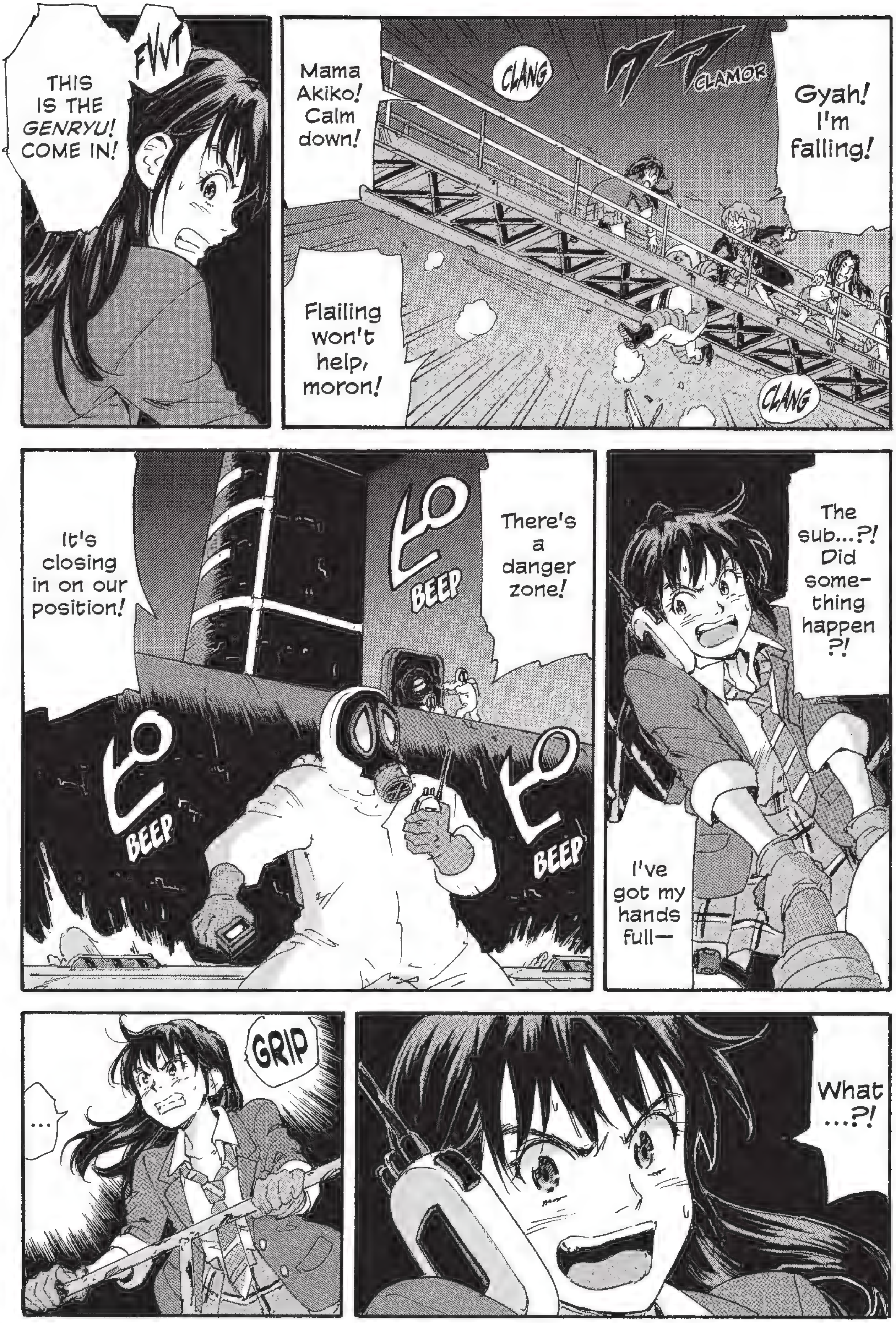

FWUP
CATCH
Haruto Kuro-sawa?
Whatcha sittin' there for?

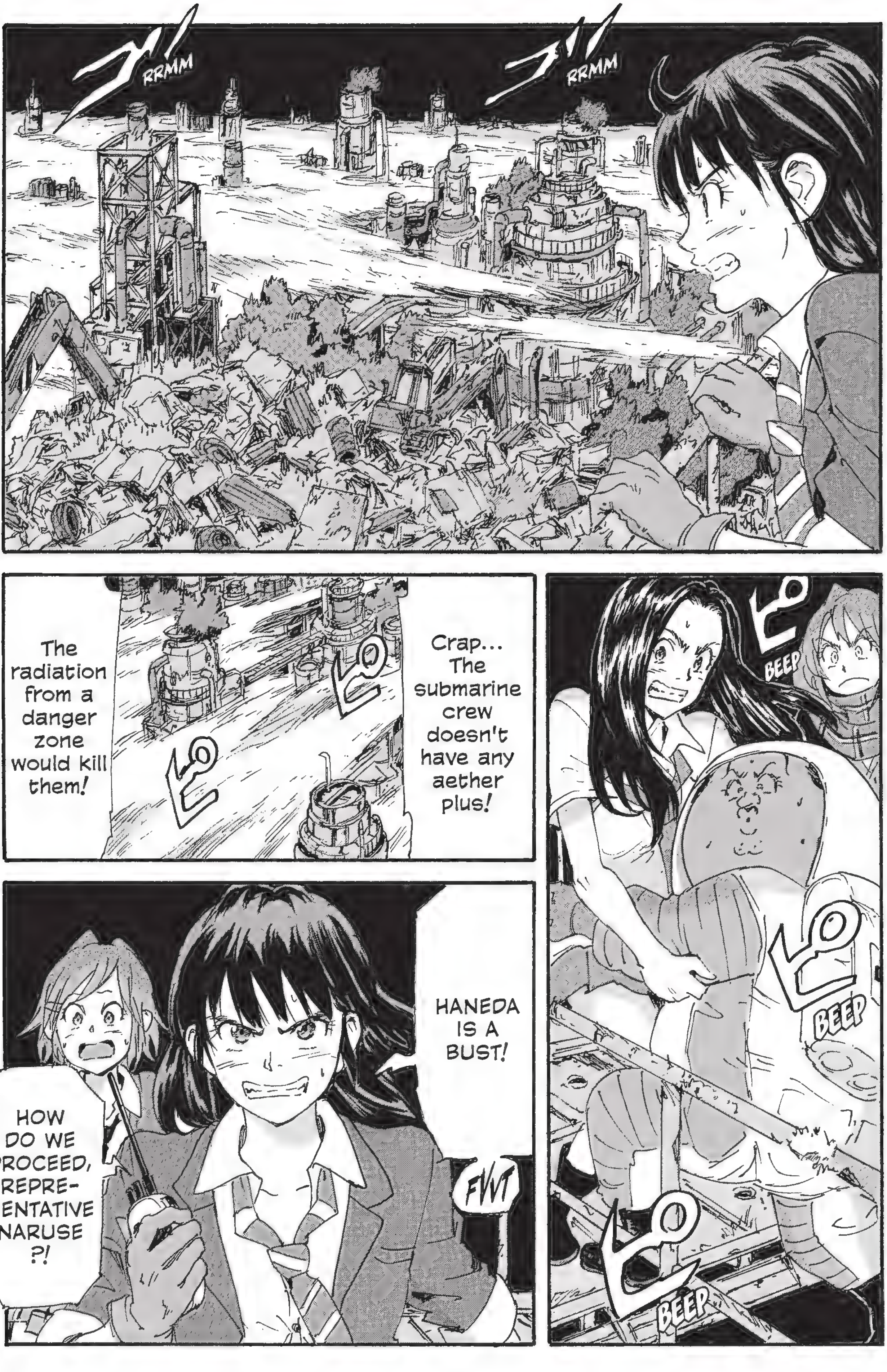

Return Meisa Ichikawa's core...
...and your life will be spared.
Core ...?
RATTLE
Ohh, you mean her eye?
Use your fire, Touma Mizoguchi. Go ahead.
It's a fitting stunt for the likes of you.
SLIP
BWOOF

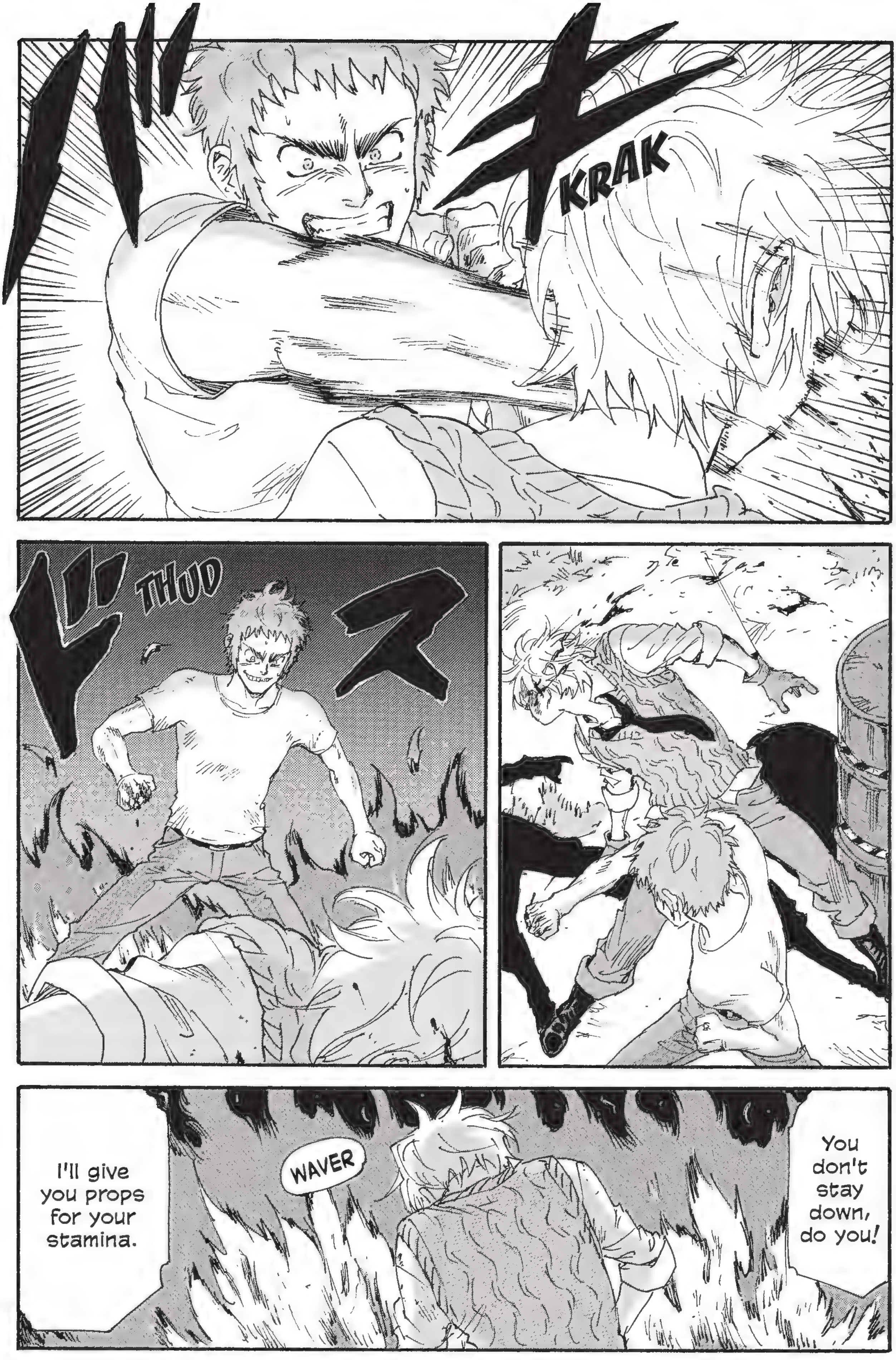

FWAP
This'll be over in one round.
You can't escape, Haruto Kurosawa.
!
WHO
OSH
WHOK
FWUMP

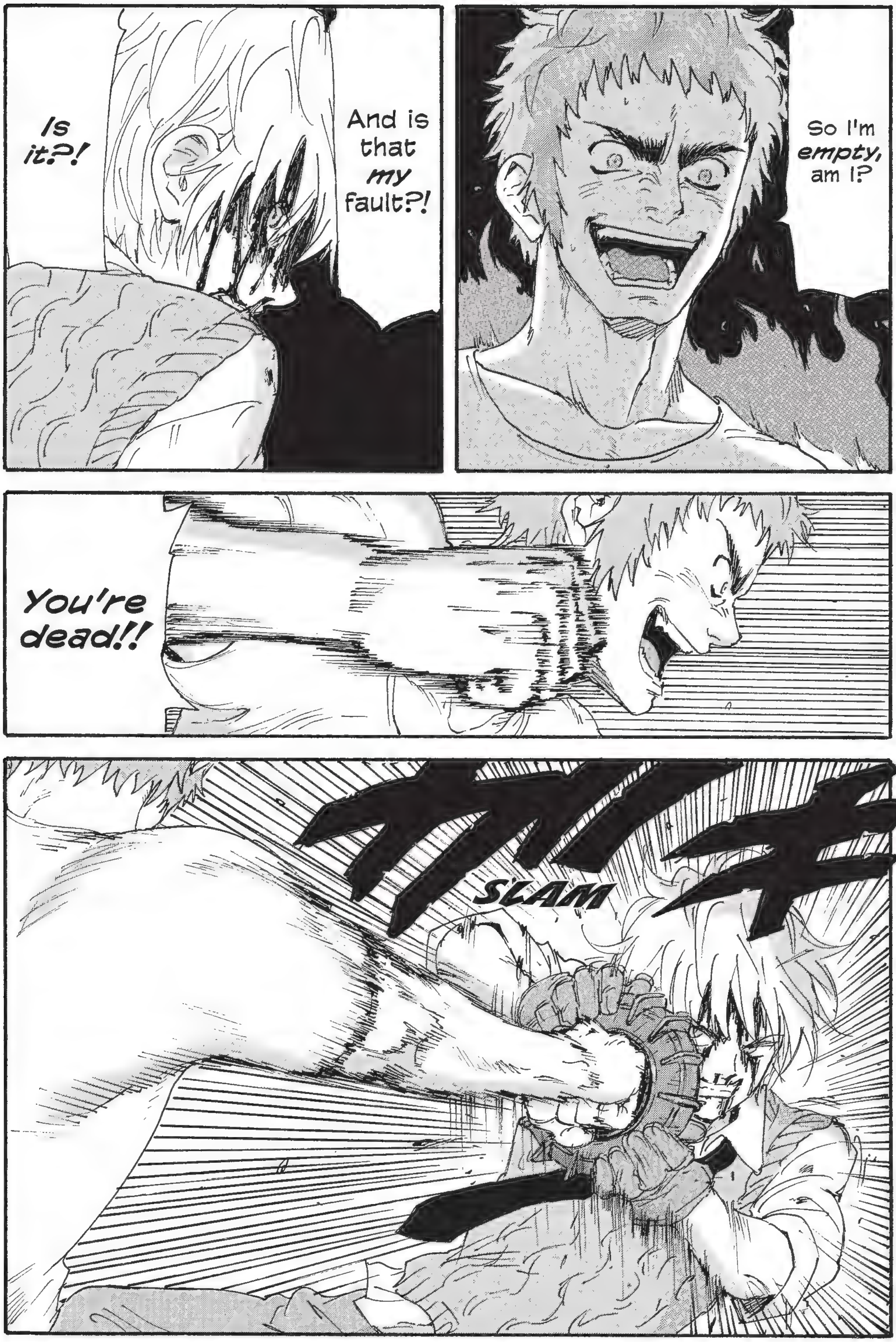

TUG
WHAM
...
FWUMP
Ha ha ha ha!
Now *this* gets my blood pumping!
Beating on *girls* just doesn't do it for me!
OOZE
Ha ha ha!
DRIP
Seems as though rebelling is the only thing you have.
You know that you're an empty shell.

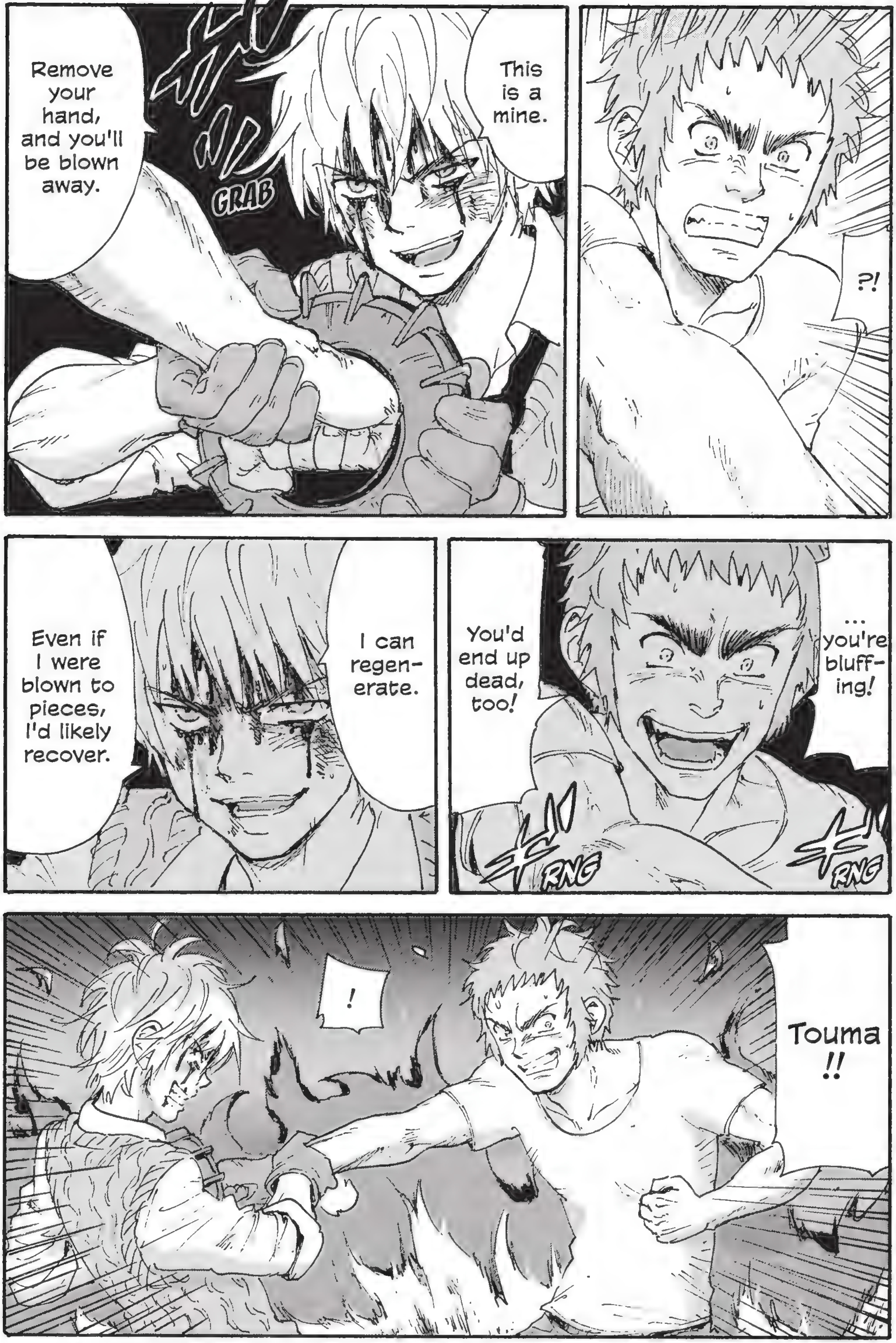

FOOM
I'll kill you.
Come and get it!
SHFF
Careful...!
The bridge is weak from old age!
!!
SNAP
WHUMP

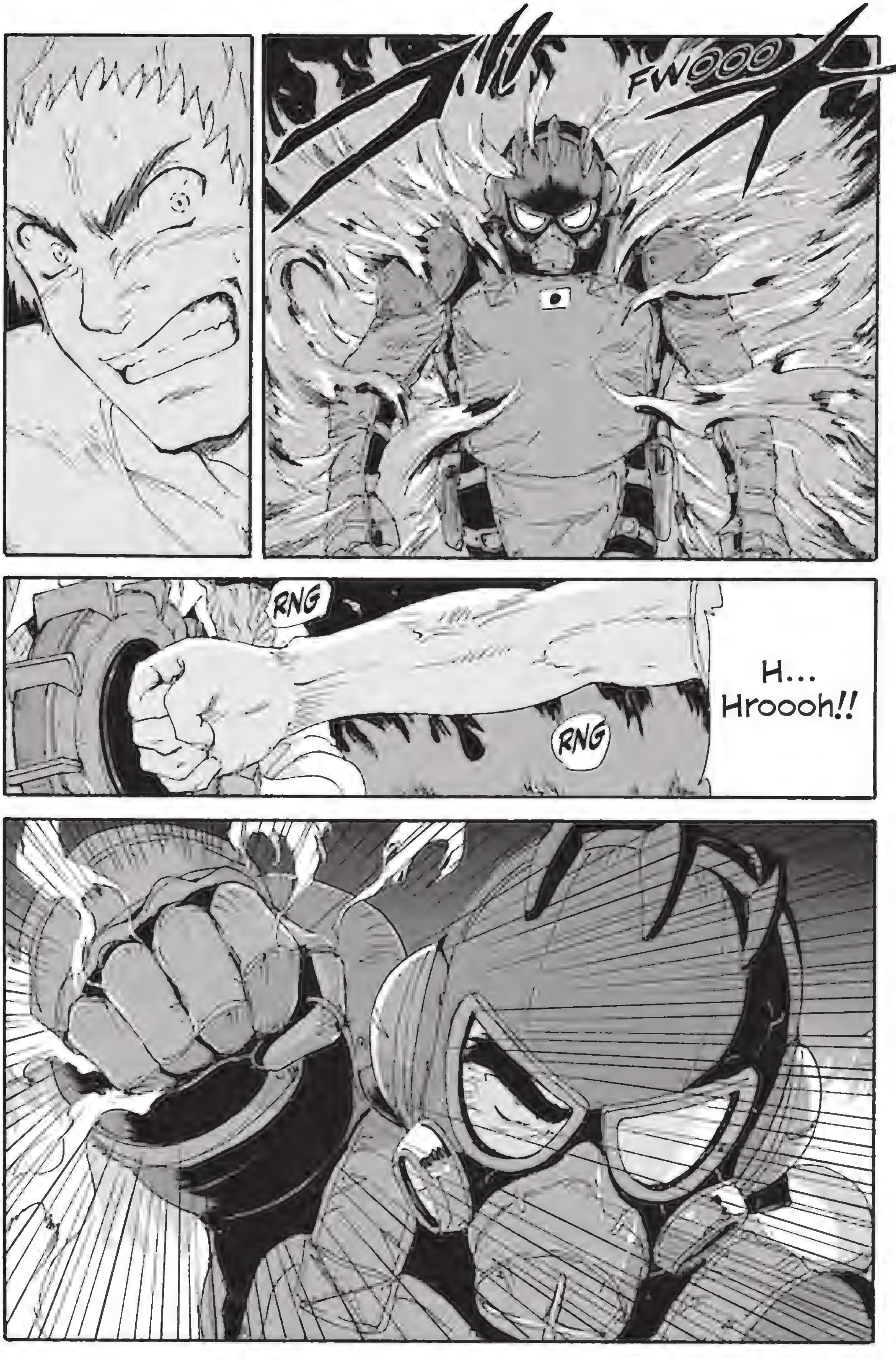

Gyah! I'm falling!
Mama Akiko! Calm down!
CLAMOR
CLANG
Flailing won't help, moron!
CLANG
FVVT
THIS IS THE GENRYU! COME IN!
The sub...?! Did something happen?!
I've got my hands full—
There's a danger zone!
BEEP
It's closing in on our position!
BEEP
BEEP
What...?!
GRIP
...

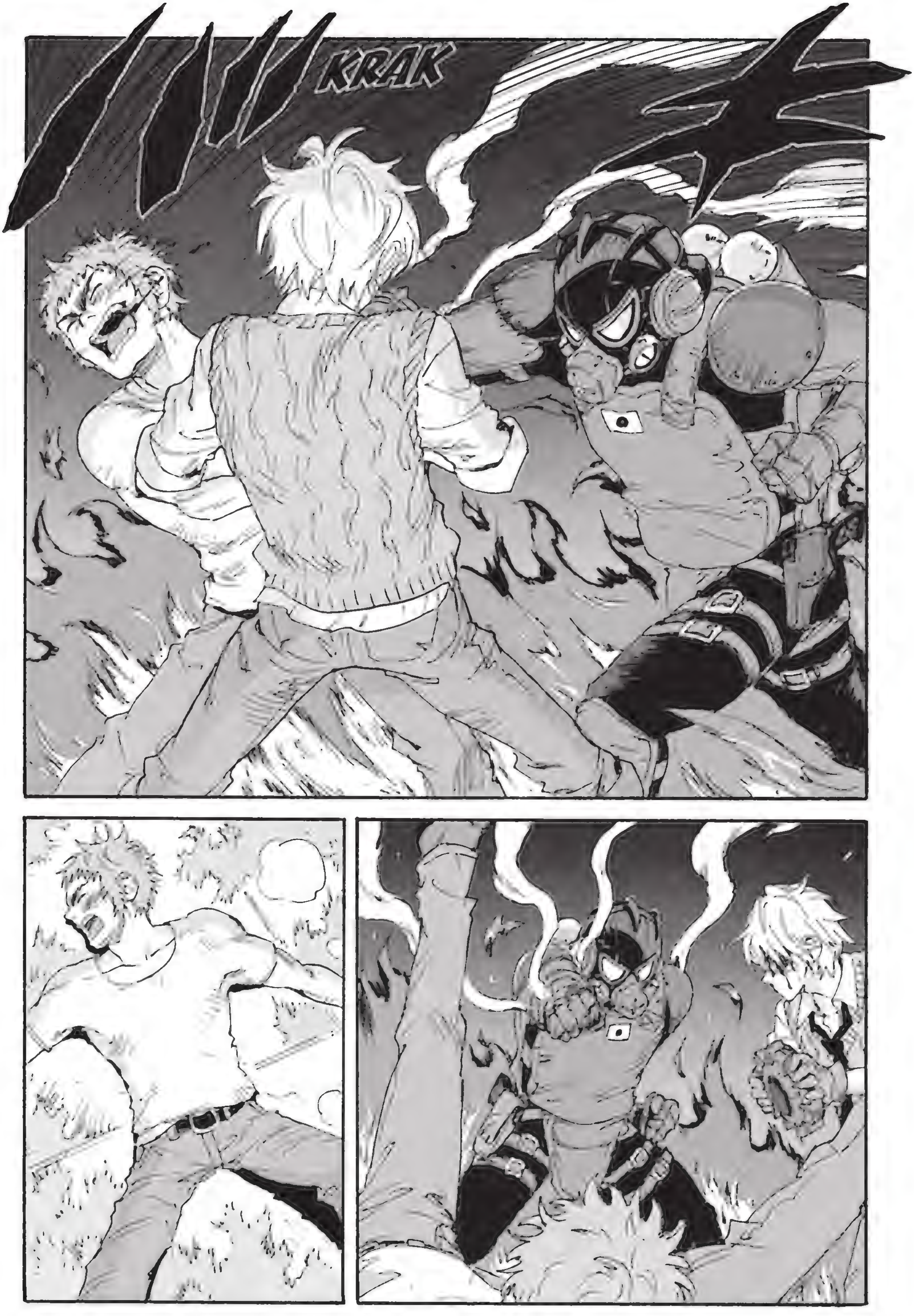

RRMM
RRMM
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
Crap... The submarine crew doesn't have any aether plus!
The radiation from a danger zone would kill them!
HANEDA IS A BUST!
FVVT
HOW DO WE PROCEED, REPRESENTATIVE NARUSE?!

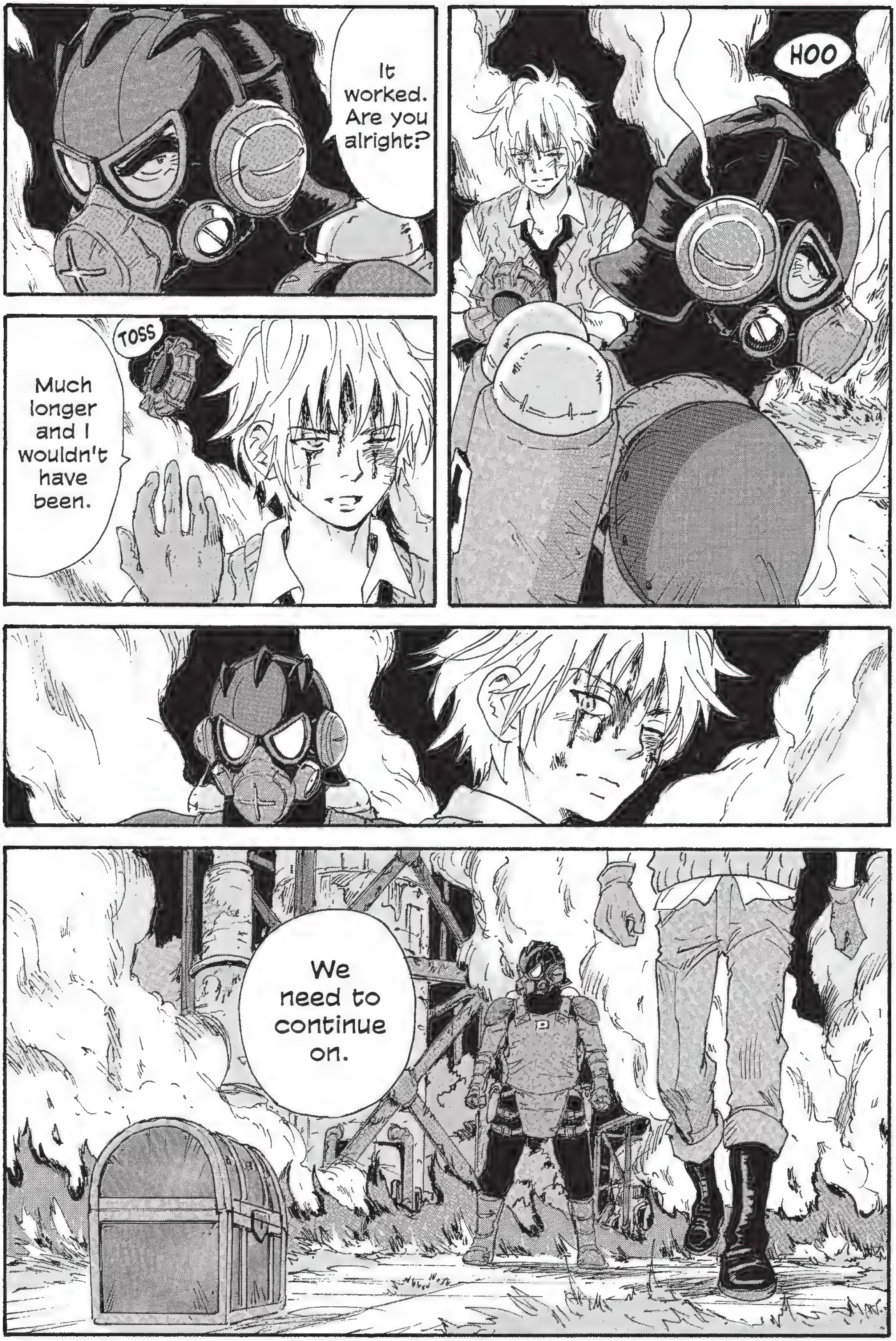

バキ
KRAK
ドス
THUD
You don't stay down, do you!
WAVER
I'll give you props for your stamina.

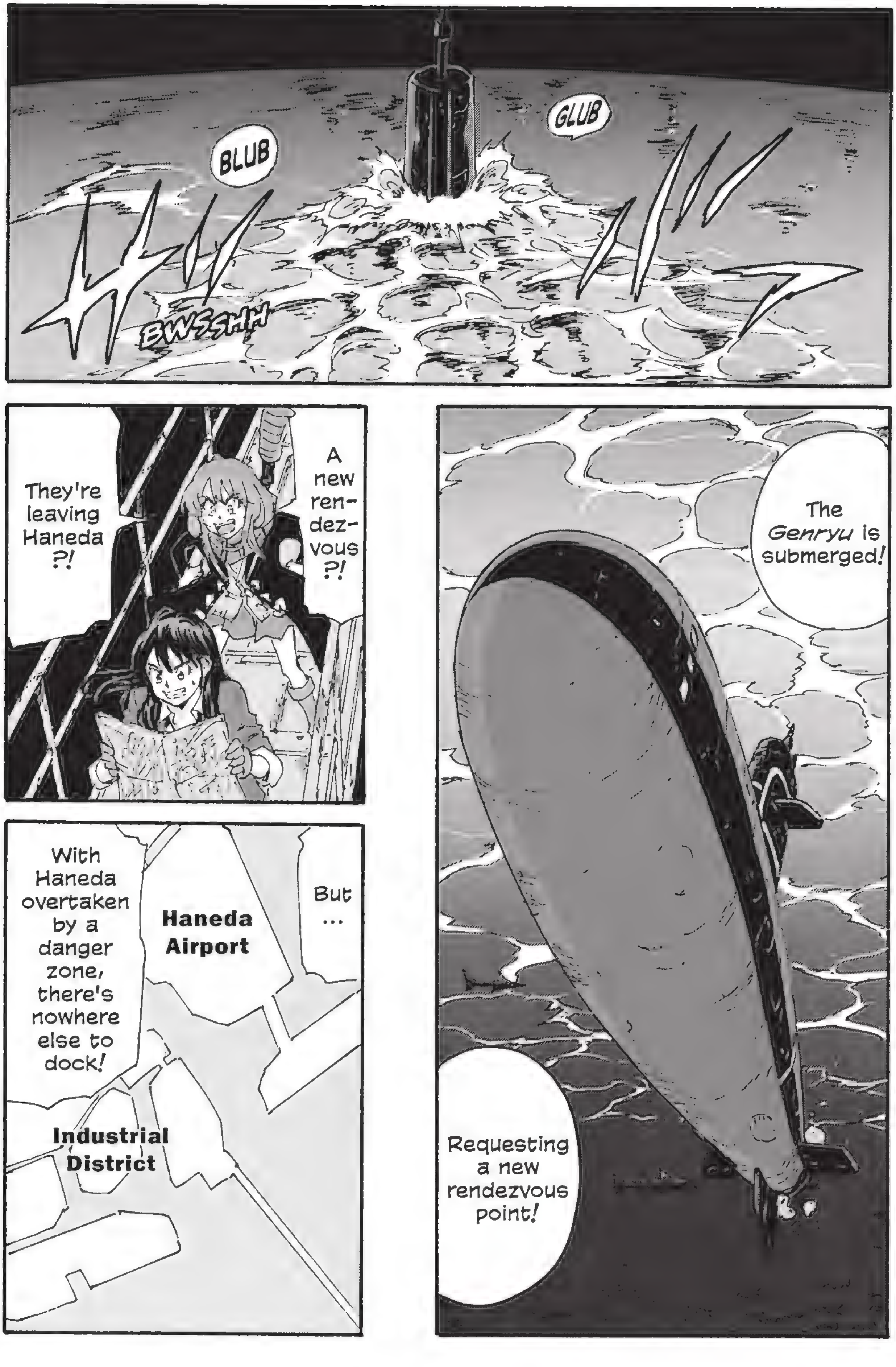

So I'm *empty,* am I?
And is that *my* fault?!
Is it?!
You're dead!!
SLAM

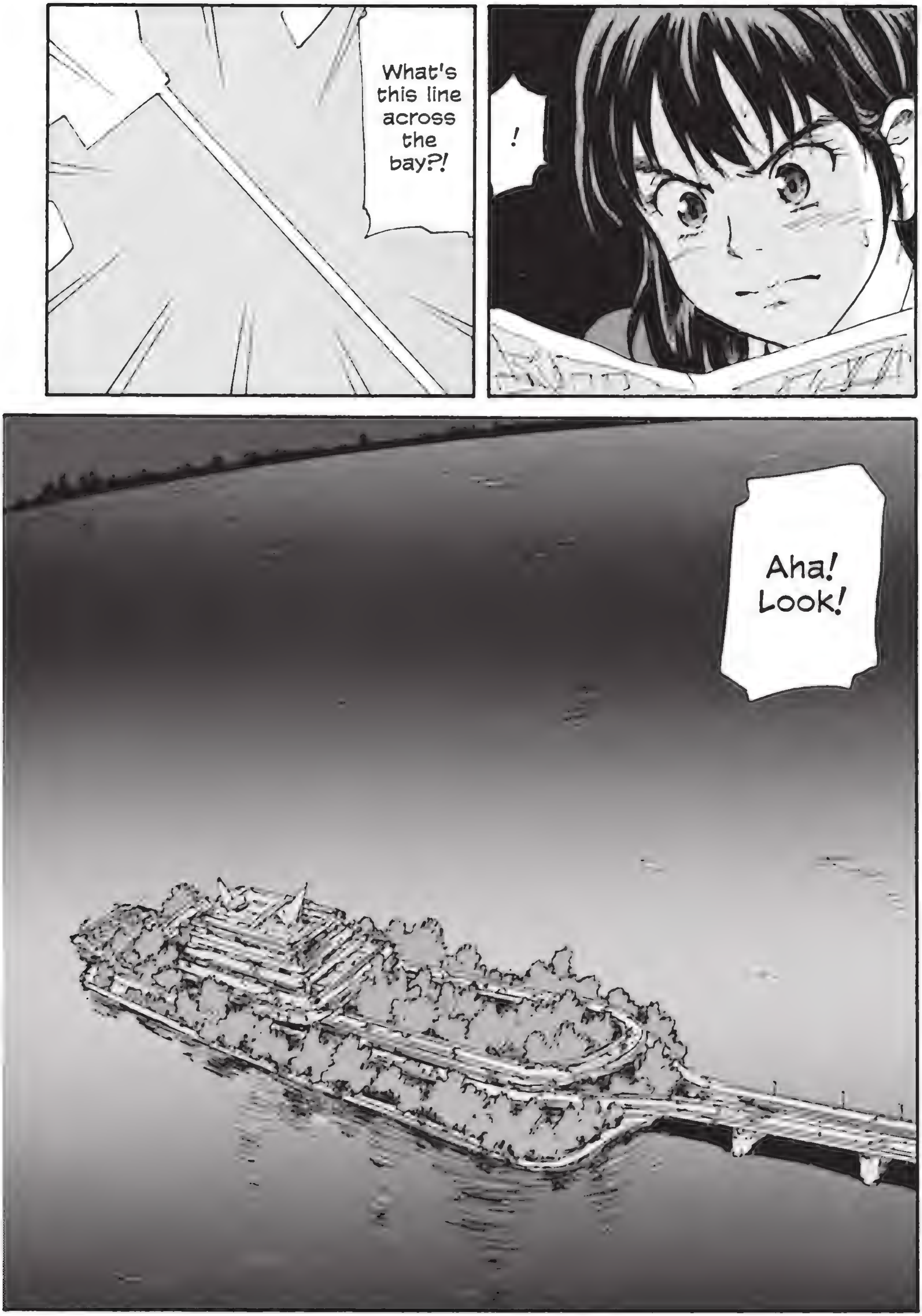

This is a mine.
Remove your hand, and you'll be blown away.
GRAB
?!
I can regenerate.
Even if I were blown to pieces, I'd likely recover.
... you're bluffing!
You'd end up dead, too!
RNG
RNG
!
Touma!!

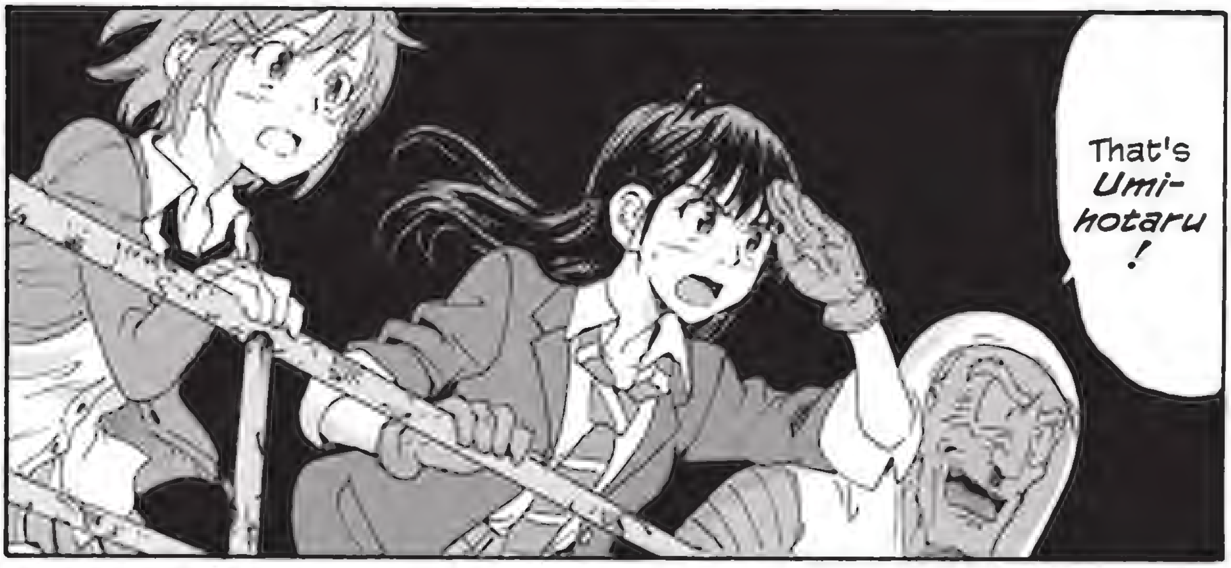

FWOOO
H...
Hroooh!!
RNG
RNG

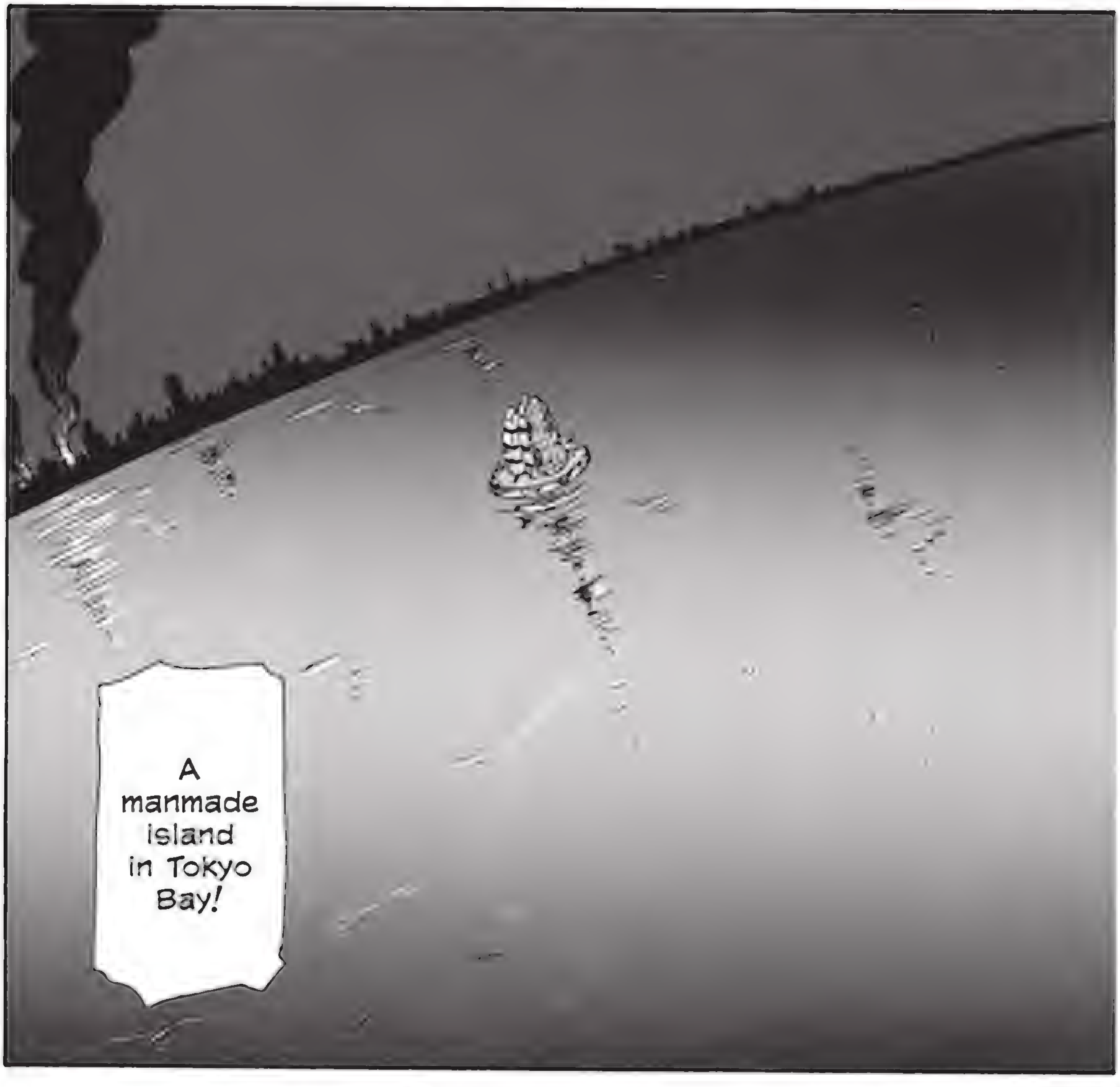

KRAK

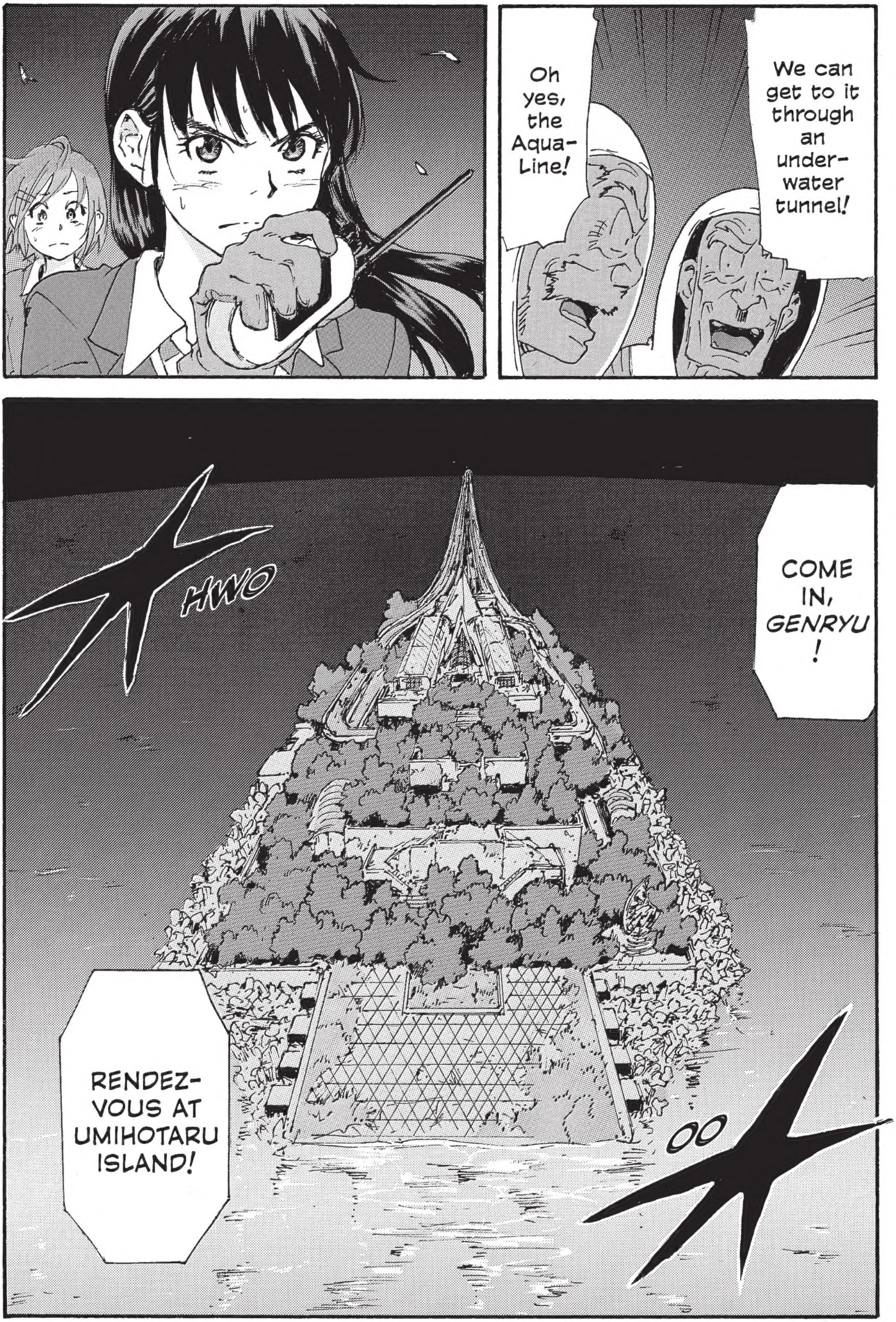

It worked. Are you alright?
HOO
TOSS
Much longer and I wouldn't have been.
We need to continue on.


GLUB
BLUB
BWSSHH
The *Genryu* is submerged!
Requesting a new rendezvous point!
A new rendezvous?!
They're leaving Haneda?!
But ...
With Haneda overtaken by a danger zone, there's nowhere else to dock!
Haneda Airport
Industrial District


!
What's this line across the bay?!
Aha! Look!


That's *Umi-hotaru*!


A manmade island in Tokyo Bay!


We can get to it through an underwater tunnel!
Oh yes, the Aqua-Line!
COME IN, *GENRYU*!
HWO
RENDEZVOUS AT UMIHOTARU ISLAND!
OO

to be continued········

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Shadowcat